

The Ramblers' Association

DONCASTER GROUP NEWSLETTER

Summer 2007

The Summer Walks Programme

The walks programme for the period March to October has a huge variety of walks, 70 in all, plus a weekend away and two coach trips.

If you want to walk locally, mainly within the boundaries of Doncaster MBC, there are 29 walks to choose from. Walks starting from Sutton, Sprotbrough, Stainforth, Sykehouse, Misterton, Barnburgh, Fishlake, and many more. There are 5/6 mile walks on Wednesday evenings and specialist footpath walks on some Sundays.

If you are happy to travel further, then there are 14 walks in the area around Doncaster. Such walks start at places such as Worksop, Sherwood Forest, Hemsworth, Haxey and the Dearne Valley.

If you want hills then you'll need to travel further to Derbyshire, Holmfirth, Harewood or Crowden. The longer walks are normally between 9 and 12 miles and take place on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

We are proud of the huge variety of walks on offer. If you're a 'sleeping' member of the RA, then why not consider becoming an active member?

Rossington Boundary Walk

On Sunday, 21st October, the Rossington Boundary Walk takes place. This is a 10/11 mile moderate walk, and also an easy 6 mile walk. The start is at the Styrrup PH at 10.00. Everybody welcome.

Walk Leaders

A reminder that the full grid reference is requested for the meeting place of

walks. The full 6-figure grid reference is preceded by two letters, which are shown on the side of the OS map. For example, on the Doncaster map, Junction 4 of the M18 is SE649052.

A Local Map-reading Walk

Anyone intending to take part on the above walk, on Saturday, 21st July, is advised to buy the Silva Field 7 compass, not the Expedition 4 compass mentioned in the Walks Programme. J W Brooke and Sons Ltd, opposite the Doncaster market, have the Field 7 compass in stock for £9.99.

Coach trips

The committee have agreed that, for future programmes, coach trips will be arranged Saturdays in April, June, August and December. The committee will liaise with members who wish to lead a coach trip walk to ensure that a good geographical spread of locations is chosen.

The first coach trip for the next programme will be on Saturday, 1st December.

Richmond Coach Trip

After a couple of years break, it was Richmond again on 7th April. All the seats were sold and the weather could not have been better. The driver did his usual excellent job, stopping at all the pick-up points on time and getting us safely to Richmond.

The first half of the walk took us up and onto Aske Moor, through beautiful countryside to Hartforth village for a lunch stop on the village green. We then walked on to the village of Gilling West, where the coach picked up those members who only wanted a short walk. The remaining members of the group continued the walk, past Aske Hall and park and the Richmond Golf Club and around the Richmond Castle ramparts for some welcome refreshments in the town prior to the

return journey. Our thanks to Geoff and Betty for doing a good job.

John Taylor

We regret to report the death of John Taylor whilst walking with the group on Tuesday, 10th April. John, a very experienced walker who had walked in mountains around the world, collapsed and died on the moors above Langsett. John had been walking with us since February and in that time had had conversations with many members, always interested on where we were going and everything that was going on around us.

Several members of the group attended his funeral on 23rd April at Rosehill Crematorium, where we met his family and members of the Wakefield Walking Club, with whom he had often walked.

Weekend Away

Due to unforeseen circumstances (the landlord has decamped) The Foresters Arms is no longer available for meals or accommodation. There is a good chippy in the village, open on Friday & Saturday: Café 16/18 will do a 2 course meal for about £14 (closed Sunday) & The Teesdale Hotel do an a la Carte menu with a main course costing around £8/£10. Will those who are booked to go, or who are considering going, please get in touch with Catherine as we need to book for the Café & Hotel for a large party. There are several other pubs & restaurants within 8 miles of Middleton, and more in Barnard Castle, about 12 miles away.

Footpath News

At the Public Path Creation Order meeting held in Tickhill recently the footpath alongside the A1(M) from Sunderland Street was deemed to be a public footpath. A long battle had been fought by several walking and

countryside organisations for many years for the right to walk here.

At Balby Carr a footpath next to Bridon Ropes is to be re-aligned. Work by DMBC is ongoing.

DMBC have spent £50,000 on green lanes around Fishlake trying to resolve long-standing surface problems. Their efforts have been successful and a further £400,000 has been committed over the next 5 years for further work.

Social Evening

A social evening has been arranged for Thursday, 23rd August. It will be held at Finningly Village Hall from 7.30 and take the form of a buffet and quiz.

Please bring own drinks.

Please book with Betty Donald on 01302 361583.

Website

A reminder that our website is up and running. The site gives our walks programme, with a gallery of photos. It is meant to reflect the activities of the Group and answer questions for potential new members. The site address is: www.doncasterramblers.org

Roy Forbes

Long-standing members will recall Roy, who died recently, aged 63. Roy was a popular member and walked regularly for several years until heart problems limited his walking. He continued to do short walks for a while, but his greatest love was walking on the Derbyshire moors and the Yorkshire Dales.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM this year will be held on Monday evening, 15th October, at The Wheatley Hotel. After the AGM there will be a presentation by the Edale Mountain Rescue Team.