

BRADFORD CHA RAMBLING AND SOCIAL CLUB

HERE IS THE NEWS: DECEMBER 2021

Hello everybody and welcome to the Bradford CHA Rambling and Social Club Christmas 2021 News-sheet, new style. No-one with any creative flair or IT skills has come forward to take over the reins from Djamel, our retiring and excellent newsletter editor. But we still need our club news, so I have offered to collate this news-sheet until we can do better. Thanks to Mick Melvin for his guidance.
Jackie Wilkes

President`s Message

Recently there was an article on BBC`s Look North programme regarding the demise of telephone boxes. Most of these boxes seem now to be used for other functions such as garden ornaments & village libraries. The article indicated there was still a limited demand for them and argued a limited number should be retained. They were an important part of our daily life and often featuring in films to add to the drama. However, new technologies are replacing them; our club has just over 200 members but only 10 or 11 members do not have access to the internet. These new technologies have been and still are vital during the Covid-19 period.

With this in mind and the necessity to do so because of Covid-19, more of our contact with members is being administered via the internet. Mick Melvin has set up a modified club website and the committee`s plans are to use Mick's expertise for future contact with members through our website.

With this, information to members will be quicker and will reduce the cost of our expenses. In the past I think our members have ignored the website. Hopefully now with this being our main method of communication you will visit the website on a regular basis.

Some of the information will appear in the members-only section; for this you need to get your individual password from Mick to access this area. For those members without internet access we will continue forwarding all the information and documents by post.

The club recently received an inquiry from the Bradford Senior Wayfarers Club regarding a form of liaison with the two clubs. The Senior Wayfarers` Walk Programme has walks just weekdays, Monday to Thursday. As you know our club has no official weekday walks since the lifting of some Covid restrictions and the return of our Saturday and Sunday walks. Malcolm and myself met their representative twice and came to a satisfactory arrangement for both clubs. It was agreed we will show their walk programmes on our website and they will show ours on their website. This means our members are free to use any of their walks and their members the same with ours. They will have to adhere to our rules and systems. It was also agreed both clubs subscriptions would be the same.

This would reduce our subs to £10. This has to be proposed and agreed at the next AGM.

Regarding the Capileira holiday, all those members entitled to a refund should have received their payment by now. Sorry for the delay, this was due to waiting for the results of travel insurance claims which could have affected the value of your refund.

Ian Ainley

General Secretary's Report

Well it's nearly Xmas again so I hope you all have a great one. Also do enjoy New Years Eve. I have planned a party with my family down near Slapton Sands in Devon....lots of rough cider I am told.

The most recent meeting of the committee was on the 17th September and it was for real! One of the matters raised was an incident which raised several important issues when we are out walking. It was a Tuesday OWLS walk with the majority being CHA members when this incident occurred. The person concerned was walking down a very narrow and muddy path which was very slippery. There was a deep gully on one side with a stream and on the other side a fence with barbed wire. She answered her phone and started a conversation as she walked and lost her concentration. She then slipped into the stream and couldn't get out without help. It turned out she had broken her leg in 3 places on her tibia and has had to have a new knee. The paramedics turned up as well as Calder Valley Mountain Rescue. The committee agreed to donate £50 to the Mountain Rescue for their wonderful help.

There were 3 points I learnt from this incident:

- We had to have the what3words app <https://what3words.com> on our mobile phone to inform 999 where we were
- We needed to have as a minimum the foil emergency blanket to keep her warm. The orange one would have been better
- *You should not answer the phone when walking unless you are on firm ground as you need to concentrate on your walking*

There was a discussion on the wearing of masks on the Sunday coach. It was agreed yet again that everyone on the coach should wear their masks at all times. This is club policy. However I see now that the government is again making the wearing of masks mandatory due to the new Covid variant. **Please make sure you follow this rule.**

It was also agreed to spend £1000 of the money that Alan Lindley left the club on 3 new signposts with Peak & Northern.

Progress is being made on the idea of sharing walks information between our club and the Senior Wayfarers. This should happen fairly quickly so do make these people welcome as I am sure you will. The SW organise walks 4 days a week between Monday & Thursday and often more than one walk a day.. There is no conflict with our club as we at least most of

the time organise walks on Saturdays and Sundays.

One exciting new venture is that the club is setting up a PayPal account for Meetup members who will be able to pay direct for the Sunday coach. If successful this method could be introduced in the future for all members. Ronnie the Treasurer has more information on this idea.

Malcolm Walters (General Secretary)

Treasurer's Report: CHA Coach April to December

You may remember that we were only allowed to recommence using the coach at the end of April and until the middle of June numbers on the coach were restricted to 25. There was some loosening of the numbers allowed after that increasing those allowed on the coach to 40 but it was not until the beginning of October that we could go back to the capacity of 53.

There was reluctance at the beginning for the membership to come back to supporting the coach and throughout the period there never has been a large waiting list and from memory there was only a few times when some could not come.

Once the capacity rose to 40 the walks had again been advertised on Meetup. This has been a success in that it has brought new members into the CHA and they have continued to support the coach.

This has helped the average numbers using the coach. For the current year the average is 36, but this takes account of when we were only allowed 25. From September the average is 42. We aim to achieve an average of 40 so at the moment we have a bit of credit to cater for the winter period. We still need your support so try to come out. Due to this uncertainty we have been running the coach on a fortnightly basis and this seems to have kept numbers up. This will continue to the end of this financial year when the position will be reviewed.

With the Covid restrictions we had to provide JAK details of the passengers on the coach and the pick-up points. This was initially the prime reason why pre booking was brought in but also with the tightening of restrictions with regard to banking cash it was not possible to go back to the old system. The fares need to be paid by cheque, bank transfer or if booking via Meetup by PayPal. The latter was set up primarily for non-CHA members booking via Meetup & they can now only sign up by making a prior payment via PayPal. A charge is made to the CHA for these transactions but this does not stop CHA members using this method of payment.

I am sorry to advise you that cash is not really wanted and only as a last resort would this be taken. If you cannot use the other means you would need to contact Ronnie Wade before the walk so that he is aware that a cash payment on the coach will be made.

Ronnie Wade (Treasurer Bradford CHA)

Saturday Secretary's Report

Hi Everyone. I hope you all had a really good Christmas.

Our Saturday Christmas dinner was held at The Swan Inn, Addingham on 4th December. Thirteen CHA members were at the dinner plus two guests, all enjoyed the meal and we were well looked after by the staff. Thanks to John Feather for leading the pre-dinner walk.

The next syllabus is another short, three month one, a total of thirteen Saturdays, there is no walk on March 26th as the club is away for the weekend.

These thirteen walks are led by a total of ten leaders, some leading more than one walk. We must recruit more members to lead walks or we soon won't be able to fill the syllabus. No special training is needed to lead, just the ability to look at a map, choose a route and follow the paths. We all get it wrong sometimes, take wrong turnings or just get hopelessly lost; please just give it a go. Ask any of the leaders (Saturday or Sunday) for advice.

The main WhatsApp group now has 103 members and we have a separate group for posting photos and videos (these were becoming so numerous that it was hard to find walk information among the pics). This group has already got 52 members.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year

Gill

Sunday Rambles Secretary's Report

All the best for the festive season!

Last time I wrote it was still (just about) summer, and we were confident enough to run a 6pm finish trip to Ambleside, which received massive support. We now seem to have an established core of participants in the new enforced system. It is wonderful to be able to walk again in the more difficult-to-access areas that were out of reach. But as we might have guessed, much is still too unpredictable for us to take the risk of going back to how we were, and that's even without the bank's reluctance to deal with our money! So the attached syllabus again involves fortnightly coaches with a similar booking system for which we are very indebted to Ronnie.

This programme takes us up to the end of GMT, so 5.00 pm finishes throughout, except for the 13th of March when, in honour of the C leader's very big birthday, we get to stay out until 6.00 pm.

After Easter, who knows, but we are thinking of maybe 6.00 pm finishes as of old. We can then get a little further afield if all goes well. I already have a few walks lined up, so if you would like to lead anything or have any ideas, please let me know soon because these fortnightly three-month programmes get filled up much more quickly!

Jackie Wilkes

Membership Secretary's Report

Hi Everyone, the CHA `grows on`

The current membership now stands at 210. Within that figure are 25 brand new members to our club since 1st April 2021. Accepting the current situation which we have all had to endure, this is a very positive result for us. At least 75% of the new memberships are linked to Meet Up which we subscribe to. The rest are word of mouth and friendships, with the main attraction surely being that we are totally unique with our (*let's hope it soon every Sunday*) club coach.

The next time you hear from me will be with your Annual renewal to CHA, but that isn't until March 2022.

Jackie Hotchen, Membership Secretary

Social Secretary's Report

Hi everyone, New Year is fast approaching, and I am sure we are all looking forward to more social events, holidays and regular walks with the club.

Socials we have enjoyed.

Wednesday 6th October 2021.

The Salt, Saltaire: a room was reserved for us downstairs. Nineteen members came along and most chose the pizza option which was very nice. It was good to see two long time members, Mick Farrar and Mike Smith. Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening, it's still a novelty socialising with friends in a pub.

Wednesday 3rd November 2021.

Wetherspoons, Bingley: they reserved the raised area in the pub for us so we could all socialise together. There was lots of laughing and talking, nineteen people came along. The food was good and the staff were friendly, so I hope everyone enjoy the evening.

Linda Richardson

(for details of next events, see following programme).

Thanks to Jean Shepherd for transport details

PS from Jackie Wilkes: and Linda organised the wonderful Sunday Christmas Dinner at Long Ashes after all the stress of last year's cancellation and this year's uncertainty- three lovely Wharfedale walks and an excellent dinner. Thanks Linda!

Weekend coordinator's Report

Shap Wells 25th March 2022

I am pleased to report that we now have 50 people booked on this weekend and I am creating a waiting list in case there are any last minute cancellations. If you are interested and have not booked please get in touch.

The booking form in the last newsletter included incorrect room rates, so to clarify, the rates should be:

Double/Twin £138 per person

Single £178

If you have paid a deposit of £10 the balance is due by the end of **January**.

If you thought you had paid in full, you may still owe £20. If unsure please get in touch.

October 2022

I am still at the planning stage for the October weekend, but if anyone has any suggestions of hotels that are large enough to take up to 50 people and are reasonably priced please let me know (bearing in mind travel time and suitable walking area). Jayne Noble

A Message from Rita, Holiday Coordinator 2022

A reminder that the second payment for Ilfracombe, of £126, is due at the end of December.

About the Club's Website

Club's Website:

Members area

The Member's area is now up and running and has been tested by some members and is working well. I have created a place on the web site for private information which can only be accessed by members who asked for a password. A new more prominent link to this area has been included on the main menu.

Coach pick up points

The coach pick up points have been updated to reflect some new stops. i.e. Keighley and Trafalgar House on Nelson Street in Bradford.

Privacy Policy

I have drafted a simple privacy policy for the Website. I am still working on it but the requirements are complicated and may require legal advice, consequently we may need to take out a subscription.

Navigating the Club Website

Ray Wilkes and I have been working on a guide to help people navigate the Club's Website. Ray has produced the useful information below.

Finding out what you need to know about our club:

Because of Covid we have stopped producing printed material such as our syllabus and website because we often have to make last minute changes. However, we know that this is causing difficulties to some of our members.

So here is what we hope is a useful guide for those unfamiliar with websites.

If you are very unfamiliar with using the web try this link first.

Control Click to follow the links.

<https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/internetbasics/understanding-hyperlinks/1/>

If you go to <http://www.bradfordwalking.org> you will come to our **Home Page** which has a menu of the items you may be interested in.

Across the top of the page there is a menu which is self-explanatory. Have a look.

At the bottom of most pages, including the Home Page there is a link to:-

- Walks and Club Events.
This page has our newsletters and events page
- Our Links
This has a lot of useful links, including train services
- Coach Pick up points
You can go back a page by clicking the back arrow top left.
Have a look at these!

Syllabus and details of walks and socials

The menu at the top of our Home Page includes Saturday and Sunday walks which provide info on our Saturday and Sunday events.

At the foot of these descriptions there is a link to our current syllabus which has an introduction and the events. You can skip the intro by scrolling down to the events.

Committee Members

On the membership page you will find more info about our club and this includes contact details for the Saturday and Sunday Rambles secretaries, and a general enquiries number.

On the **Home Page** there is a link to **our committee** which contains contact details of each committee member and a link to our Meetup Website.

Membership.

There is a downloadable printable membership form for new members, which includes how to pay.

Ray Wilkes

Report by **Mick Melvin Administrator**

Be Adventure Smart

This is a campaign supported and promoted by a wide range of organisations, and it simply asks you to consider three questions before setting off for a walk or it could be a climb or a bike ride or even a wild water swim:

Do I have the right Gear?

Do I know what the weather will be like?

Am I confident I have the knowledge and skills for the day?

I would suggest all walk leaders and anyone who is regularly going out walking look at this web site as it has plenty of useful advice so that you are prepared to do anything you can to prevent accidents and problems. This can be found at the link below: Ronnie Wade

<https://www.adventuresmart.uk/>

An Invitation from Verner Wheelock, Senior Wayfarers

I am delighted that CHA has reached agreement with the Bradford Senior Wayfarers to collaborate. I would like to issue a cordial invitation to all those in CHA to join us in some of our activities. We have 7 groups which have walks regularly during the mid-week. Details of the walks are on our website: <https://www.seniorwayfarers.org.uk/>

These details have also been added by Mick to our own website: <http://www.bradfordwalking.org>

Here is a summary of the groups:

- Monday 8 Milers. Leaders: Rod Seed TN 07849861639 and Ian Robotom.
<https://www.seniorwayfarers.org.uk/monday8mile.html>
- Tuesday 5 Milers. Leader: David Webster TN 01274 602193 or 07975721112
<https://www.seniorwayfarers.org.uk/tuesday5mile.html>
- Tuesday 4-5 Milers. Leader: Teresa Hall TN 01535633848 or 07875 716662
<https://www.seniorwayfarers.org.uk/tuesday4to5.html>
- Wednesday 4 Milers Leaders: John & Judith Bentley. Email: bentleyj2@sky.com
TN 01535274818, 07928609688
<https://www.seniorwayfarers.org.uk/wednesday.html>
- Thursday 5/6 Milers. Leader: Hazel Seed TN 07813502131
<https://www.seniorwayfarers.org.uk/thursday5mile.html>
- Thursday 8 Milers. Leader: Barry Parker TN 07964216184
<https://www.seniorwayfarers.org.uk/thursday8miles.html>
- Thursday 8-10 Milers. Leader Russell Driver TN 07443511985
<https://www.seniorwayfarers.org.uk/thursday8to10.html>

If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Leader of the group that might be of interest. In addition, we have a programme of events planned, for which there is a charge to cover the costs. Details are here:

1. Friday 18th March. There will be a buffet lunch to mark the 90th birthday of Frank Starr, one of our long-time members. £20
2. Thursday 28th April. Coach trip to Ambleside with two walks, £17

3. Thursday 16th June. BBQ at Airton Farm Shop preceded by a walk, £15
4. Wednesday 6th July. Coach trip to Scarborough with two walks, £17
5. Saturday 24th September for one week. Holiday in Arnside. This is now confirmed and about 20 have already booked. There are still places, if any more are interested, £360.
The holiday includes DBB from Saturday to Saturday with a packed lunch provided.
6. If you are interested in booking a place on any of these events, please contact me, Verner Wheelock

Email: verner.wheelock@vwa.co.uk

T 01535 636008