

# HARROGATE RAMBLING CLUB

## President's Newsletter

### Easter 2022

Daffodils, the harbingers of Spring, or as that great walker Wordsworth put it as paraphrased by Willie Rushton "Daffodils, b\*\*\*\*y daffodils, I'm sick to death of daffodils, if I see another b\*\*\*\*y daffodil, I think I shall throw up. Perhaps that's why there are no walks to Farndale during April in the programme this year. Earlier in the year I don't think anybody could have missed the snowdrops whatever walk you were on. We have had some lovely spring weather, walking in shorts and tee-shirts and then last two days of March, snow, rain and hail, why do we do it?



*Sorry I haven't caught the 45-degree sleet, hail and rain*

Thankfully, there are several members committed to the club's three-night walking holiday in early May, kindly organized by Stan Robertson, in Alnmouth on the beautiful Northumbrian coast. With half decent weather, the walking should be tremendous. If the weather is awful, you could spend a whole day in the bookshop in Alnwick.

There are several naturalists come on our walks with considerable knowledge of birds, flora and fauna, but sadly none with a pair of us on a walk out in Colsterdale when we saw three

barn owls, they must have been hungry to be flying during the day, and three hares, or was it one hare moving about a lot? On a follow up walk a weasel looked at me enquiringly before continuing, only by study did I know it was a weasel not a stoat. Perhaps it's a bit easier to see wild life at this time of year with so little foliage, but such glimpses add to the lovely views we experience on our walks.

Sadly, we have lost a few members at renewal time this year. Many of us knew Trevor Lovell, who died earlier in the year, as a very able companion walker, an ex-member of that group of fit young men known as the Aspin Gaspers. Trevor was a very good all-round sportsman, so Parkinson's Disease was a particularly hard blow. Harry Parker, another Honorary Member also died in February. We are also very sorry to see Oliver and Noreen Logan depart from the club as they have been the people who ensured our programme booklets arrived through our doors by assiduously addressing envelopes and putting all the booklets inside and then posting them. However, they have very kindly agreed to continue this task; very good of them indeed. We are also sorry to lose Buck White from our membership as his poor health has seriously curtailed his walking. He made a tremendous contribution to the club, when President, by sorting out our insurance needs and ensuring we had the right policy with the right company. His enduring club legacy will be Buck's Viz, his introduction of high visibility jackets to be used on walks.

Sorry about the paucity of pictures, but if you visit the club's facebook page I understand Judith Cornfield has posted many pictures.

Thank you to the very kind people who let me know that they had enjoyed the newsletter that arrived with the programme booklet, clearly that made more of an impression than the ones that go out with the bulletins or on the website, so I will try and ensure, with our programme secretary's permission, that a newsletter goes out with each booklet, but there will still be ones in the bulletin and on the website with the webmaster's and administrator's permission.

Now I must go and sort out a walk or two for the next programme. Have a lovely Easter.

Greg