

HARROGATE RAMBLING CLUB

President's Newsletter

Winter 2023

After a wonderfully warm early October, we now seem to be getting back to more seasonal weather, and the rain hasn't been too bad so far. At the AGM John Hopkins related how the day before the B walk had been obstructed at the last gate by a recumbent bull.



I think it unlikely that the exhausted bull had been servicing this herd.



But I don't think goats have caused any trouble. Have we any lessons to learn about getting over walls?

To ensure we see wider horizons, we are looking for volunteers to organize coach rambles, not to mention a summer social in 2024, all parts of our active calendar. We also need an assistant for our webmaster. Chat after the AGM may have produced some seeds for development.

I never cease to be amazed by our members, who have or have had serious illnesses and keep coming back for more miles and more chat. The octogenarians and at least one nonagenarian continue to inspire us all. This may well be why the local NHS wishes to use us as part of a patient's well-being campaign. Hope it is for everybody and not just “patients”.

AGM

Forty-two people turned up for the AGM, which was great and lovely to see everyone. Many appreciated not having to find their way to a pub afterwards, so it turned into a good social evening, having got the business over in an hour, we were free to eat, drink and socialise.

During the meeting, concern was expressed about members walking ahead of leaders on club walks. This was considered impolite to the leaders as well as not following club recommendations as in the “Tactful note” on page 10 of the programme booklet. If you wish to walk ahead of the leader, please ask their permission and do not get out of their sight. It is also a courtesy for all walkers to be aware of who is ahead of them and who is behind, so that if they come to a fork in the path, they can see the route ahead and may remain at that point until those behind have reached it and know which way to go. Of course, the back marker can always blow their whistle and stop everybody! Again, if you consider a walk too fast or too slow, you could consider joining one of the other groups that our club has on offer.

John Hopkins had spent a considerable time establishing which organization and project would give us best value for our donation buck. The meeting decided on giving to the Yorkshire Dales National Park to create a boardwalk along one of the worst sections of a footpath in Gunnerside Bottoms, Swaledale as the photos (see on HRC website under AGM) showed it looked really unsafe.

We were delighted to welcome Jonathan Marriott onto the committee as programme secretary (he did the last booklet). Laura Buckley is also a welcome new face on the committee. Nick Kemp has agreed to stay on, but no longer in an officer role. The election of the committee had the following result.

President	Greg Richardson	Administrator	Sue Marriott
General Secretary	John Hopkins	Committee member	Stan Robertson
Treasurer	Dave Bonsels	Committee member	David Riley
Membership Secretary	Nick Anderson	Committee member	Nick Kemp
Programme Secretary	Jonathan Marriott	Committee member	Laura Buckley
		Webmaster*	Julia Riddington

*The webmaster is a non-elected post and is appointed by the committee and invited to all committee meetings.

Lastly don't forget the next night at Starling is Friday 24th November, Stan won't be there, but it is booked, as is the 26th January 2024. Although we haven't yet reached bonfire night, my best wishes for a Christmas you thoroughly enjoy and enjoy your walking until then (afterwards as well!)

Greg Richardson