

# HARROGATE RAMBLING CLUB

## President's Newsletter

### Whit 2024

Once again Easter has beaten me to it, hence the title of Whit, although from the weather we have had since October it might just as well be Wet. The last six months have been a real test of our waterproof gear, as water seems to creep into every little crevice. Recommendations for the best waterproof for every part of the anatomy would be very welcome. However, on a sunnier note the last two Wednesdays we have walked without rain, unless you were out later on 17<sup>th</sup> April when the C group were cozily ensconced in the pub. The abstemious tea drinkers sat in the open air and got wet on the outside instead of the inside.



*The rain doesn't always come out in the photos, but the puddles certainly do!  
(photo courtesy of Laura Buckley)*

What exciting things did we discuss at this week's committee meeting? At the last meeting there was quite a chat about temporary membership and as it says in para 1.9 of the current walks programme, if a leader accepts a guest or visitor on their walk "as per guidance note 3.3 Membership (in the booklet), it is necessary to take an emergency contact number" and make a note of it, in case of that guest or visitor running into difficulties. This may seem like a bit of a chore for the walk leader but is a wise precaution and may well prevent a very difficult situation arising.

The committee are concerned about the lack of support for E walks and Sunday C/D walks. Ann Dickinson does a sterling job at putting E walks in, but could do with some other leaders, as she can't be expected to lead every walk. If you are a member whose walking capacity is reduced, please think about supporting Ann on her walks or leading an E walk. The closing date for the next walk programme is 31<sup>st</sup> May and there are currently no walks in for Sunday C/D walks and the current programme is not exactly flush with them. There surely must be a need for them so please offer support if you like walking on Sundays and consider offering to lead one.

A major achievement of Julia Riddington, John Hopkins and Jonathan Marriott has been the compilation of a walks' directory. The directory will be a wonderful resource for leaders or potential leaders with 'walk block' who just can't think where to go. There will be a plethora of walks to search by area or grade. This has been a herculean archive dig, which will be a tremendous boon to the club; look it up as soon as it goes live on the website.

You will also be delighted to know that as a result of the club agreement at the last AGM to donate money to a cause which furthers our rambling aims, a path in Swaledale has been repaired by the Yorkshire Dales National Park with our donation. Pictures should soon appear on Sue Marriott's timely updates. As North Yorkshire County Council are withdrawing funding for the maintenance of all the footpaths and bridleways in the North Yorkshire National Parks, we may be requested for considerably more!

We can have a good chin wag about all these matters at the next Starling Social which has been moved from the last Friday in May to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May. I hope to see you there with a few more than the intimate group that met on Good Friday. The coach ramble to Whitby is taking considerable organization by David Riley, who already has 20 takers and walk leaders for the B+, B and C walks, coach seats are going fast so don't miss the bus! Send an email to David Riley at [rileyanywhere@ntlworld.com](mailto:rileyanywhere@ntlworld.com) and send £15.00 by bank transfer to Harrogate Rambling Club, sort code 30-98-97, Account number 81773662 and don't forget to put in the reference "Whitby Coach Ramble" otherwise you won't be booked on the trip as neither David nor our treasurer will know where the money has come from.

Please do your best to attend the AGM on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October, where you will be thoroughly refreshed after the meeting having had your self bought aperitif beforehand, 6.30 to start the meeting at 7.00pm. Please consider standing for the committee, don't feel you have to take on a role, the committee always appreciate the wisdom and council of the members, I certainly do.

Will the mud ever dry out? I don't recommend any wild river crossings, sounds like it will be more like going through the motions!

Greg Richardson