

Newsletter of the Waveney & District Group of the Ramblers

Number 74: November 2017

Editorial

*J*ow time flies! It seems that it was only yesterday that we were looking forward to a programme of summer walks and now we are about to start the winter programme.

Thanks to walk leaders and Roger, we have a very full 4-month programme. Of particular note, I would like to highlight the Festival of Winter Walks from 23rd December to 7th January and the Seals and Somerton Area walk on 18th February. Also, do please attend the AGM on Thursday 23rd November at 7.30 in the Quaker Hall, Beccles as your support is much needed.

For the Christmas Lunch (and walk for those who want some exercise beforehand) the venue has moved to the 12 Lost Churches pub and restaurant by Cliff House on the road up to Dunwich Heath. This now very welcoming venue has been used often by Ramblers since a management change two years ago and they are offering a good choice menu – see details inside the Newsletter.

Finally, also see inside the Programme for details of possible spare places on the Andalucía walking holiday in March and the Isle of Wight in April.

Tony Langford



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Bath Hills Curry Fundraiser

At the end of June, Neil organised a walk with curry afterwards at his house to raise funds for "Congo School for Peace". This was to fund school resources and education for refugee & local children. This charity (commission number 1151173) is run by volunteers and 100% of donations go to the school. Planned projects include paving the playground which can turn into mud, building a perimeter wall for safety and drains for hygiene. Although only a few took up the curry option, £124 was raised with many donations from members.

Waveney Ramblers' Coach Trip – July 2017

On a pleasant Sunday morning, with 38 on board, and after a slight hitch at the Bungay pick-up point with one person missing, it transpired after some phone calls that the person had been collected at the Flying Dutchman, and we were on our way to Long Melford.

The mood was light-hearted as the coach sped off to the first drop-off point at the green by the church, where the 10- and 13-milers disembarked with their leaders.

Chris's group headed off past the church and into the pleasant undulating countryside of the Suffolk/Essex border, passing through horse paddocks and generally clearly marked paths, with the exception of one field of sugar beet and a huge 'set-aside' field full of unkempt grass weeds – to the benefit of wildlife but which broke up the rhythm of the group on their way to the lunch stop in Cavendish.

In Cavendish we walked through several gardens backing onto the Stour and by the church, giving views over well laid out gardens not normally seen including one with a banana tree! The green, with a pub and church nearby and bordered by many 'chocolate box' houses and cottages, is very picturesque and well worth a visit.

Pat's group had initially headed off towards Lavenham before taking a similar route to Cavendish and arrived as we were close to departing – an unplanned surprise so we combined for the next two miles or so before separating, as our chosen routes to Clare differed, both arriving in time for refreshments.

Doreen's group of 20+ started at Glemsford and followed the same route to Clare via Cavendish. Meanwhile, one member with limited mobility on the day managed to get himself invited to a picnic, whilst all the others were striding out. This larger group arrived in Clare first and had ample opportunity to find refreshments in the local cafes and pubs whilst several seemed determined to explore every shop!

At 5pm we all gathered back on the coach and sped home and, thankfully, there were no incidents this time unlike our last visit to Clare.

Thank you, Doreen, Chris and Pat, for another great day out.



Bath Hills Curry Fundraiser



Weybread walk in July



Unusual sights on Thurton walk



Castle on coach walk



Clare coach walk



Welcome break at the Sailors' Home



Hailstorm on Wortham Walk



Waveney explorers near Dersingham looking across the Wash



Christmas Lunch / Walk

Wednesday 6th December

approx. 1 pm at the 12 Lost Churches, Dunwich Heath

2 Course menu £18.95 per person



Mains

1. Roast Turkey with all the Trimmings, Roast Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables **G/F**
2. Roast Venison with a Game & Port Sauce, Fondant Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables **G/F**
3. Pan Fried Hake in Parma Ham, Dauphinoise Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables served with a White Wine & Cream Sauce **G/F**
4. Chestnut & Cranberry Loaf, Redcurrant Gravy, Roast Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables **G/F**

Dessert

5. Traditional Christmas Pudding & Brandy Sauce
6. Citrus Soufflé & Tuile Basket of Winter Berries **G/F**
7. Double Chocolate & Praline Torte with Vanilla Ice-Cream
8. Golden Syrup Sponge & Crème Anglaise

To Finish

Tea or Coffee & Mince Pie

We Will Require a Pre-Order by Name Two Weeks Prior to your Booking

If you have an allergy or intolerance please let us know in advance & we will do our best to accommodate your requirements

G/F Gluten Free Option Available with Advance Notice

Please retain the details above and send this part to Tony Langford with your payment (£18.95 each). Please circle your choices, giving numbers required. If not walking, we are aiming for a **lunch at 1.00 pm**.

1..... 2..... 3..... 4.....

Turkey Venison Hake Chestnut loaf

5..... 6..... 7..... 8.....

Christmas Pud Citrus Soufflé Choc/Praline Torte Syrup Sponge

Name(s).....

Address.....

Tel No.....Enclosed cheque for £.....

Make Payable to 'The Ramblers Association Waveney Group', to arrive **before Wednesday 22nd November**. Please send to: Tony Langford, 16 Holton Road, Halesworth, IP19 8HF.

Walks with added challenges

In early September, whilst walking the Angles Way, the group of 25 or so were confronted by a large and rather annoyed bull. It transpired shortly after that his bellowing, stamping and snorting were the result of being separated from a large herd of cows under the 'care' of another bull. Some of the more sensible members of the group decided to take a different route via a barbed wire fence whilst the more foolhardy waited an opportunity to reach the gate into the next field. That time came, when the angry bull briefly moved away and we safely entered the next field only to find it full of those cows, another bull and many calves. Thankfully, by taking a field edge route we were completely ignored and re-joined the more sensible group.

Strangely, on a different walk several weeks later with the same leader, we were met by not only another two herds of cattle but also a curious flock of sheep. We will be disappointed if on his next walk we don't cross a field of wild horses or at the very least, rampaging pigs!

Obituary – Sybil Sayer

Sadly, we have to report the death of Sybil Sayer on August 5th. Sybil joined the Waveney group of the Ramblers in the early 1980's where she met John and they eventually married. John was, at that time, footpath secretary and Sybil became an active member of the footpath committee supporting John in this work. Sybil had many other interests but walking became her favourite pastime. She particularly loved the Lake District and spent many happy holidays there. Always the first to introduce herself to new members on walks, to put them at their ease, she gained many new friends. Sybil loved the countryside and became a keen bird watcher, joining the Beccles Bird Society where she served as secretary for a time.

A generous and truly lovely person, she will be missed by all her many friends. We extend our sincere sympathy to John and Sybil's family.

Obituary – Basil Swatman

Sadly, Basil Swatman passed away on September 18th. Basil, together with his wife Betty, was a founder member of the Waveney Group of the Ramblers Association. Basil and Betty were active members in those early days joining in footpath surveys and clearances. He also organised many walks. He served a term as chairman of the group and was a member of the footpath committee.

In the early 1980's, he had the concept of creating a long-distance walk along the Waveney valley, from the sea to its origin in Redgrave Fen. This was the foundation for the Angles Way. Perhaps, I will remember Basil personally for all his "naff" jokes, garnered from comics like the Beano!

Ann Youngs

Contributions for next edition of *The Waveney Rambler* should be sent, by **19th Jan, 2018**, to: Tony Langford, 16 Holton Road, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8HF (tel. 01986 875694) or email to: langfordajs@hotmail.com. Contributors please note that articles should not exceed 350 words, unless permission is given by the editor. **Relevant photos are invited.**