

# Newsletter of the Waveney & District Group of the Ramblers

Number 84: March 2021

## Editorial

Writing this for the last programme seemed very strange but nothing compared to now!

It was a delight to see Roger putting out a call for some new walks in this programme, which many have done, even though we are in a very strict lockdown at present. He, plus a lot of walk leaders, still remain optimistic that we will be given the approval to re-start walks, even if it is a month or two into the programme.

Most walk leaders are specifying smaller groups and then only for Waveney Ramblers members, to ensure we have a reasonable chance of getting on several walks in the programme. Phoning-up to book a place is not a lot to ask, and we must respect that those leading these walks may be limiting numbers as they or a family member is vulnerable, even post vaccination.

For those who missed the Zoom AGM held in November, details of the new Committee are shown in this Newsletter and it was pleasing to note that all key positions were filled.

This walk programme is usually the most popular one, with improving temperatures but not too hot, and often the driest period in this part of East Anglia. So let's hope that we are given the green light to get out as a group. If we are, it is unlikely that those who enjoy social refreshments in a nearby pub after the walk will be rewarded but who knows; maybe alfresco dining will be fine.

*Tony Langford*



ramblers  
all the fun of walking

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Registered office: 1 Clink Street, 3rd Floor, London SE1 9DG.

## Positive Thoughts

For most of us this latest full lockdown has been a right pain, so what can you do to lighten the dismay?

Like many, I have been walking the local area nearly every day, to fit in with the 'staying local' and 'exercise is good in difficult times to keep the mind as well as body healthy' mantra. However, I only have around 3 walks (6 if you go in reverse) to choose from at this time of year, unless I want to end up to my waist in mud. Therefore, it can get rather mundane unless you do something else as well. One of them takes in Halesworth Millennium Green - *see photo page 6*.

Never having been keen on listening to music or stories via ear phones, I have instead started to take an even greater interest in the changing flora and fauna around me on each walk. Things that I had never appreciated before become more visible such as: how the rooks start so early to claim the top spot on their favourite trees and have even started to rebuild nests; and, even though we are far from spring, wild shrubs and trees are already pushing out buds, and bulbs along the paths are edging up.

Maybe due to some brighter days, the bird chorus has increased of late. I am not really good enough to recognise too many but do try anyway. Spotting harriers, buzzards and other smaller birds of prey on a walk is always uplifting. So, now I am getting a lot more out of my 6 walks, even though I could do them all blindfolded now with ease!

Tony



## Lockdown Again!

As illustrated in the last newsletter, it was I who had the pleasure of leading the first longish walk after lockdown. On Sunday 1st November, again it was my pleasure to lead the last comparatively long walk before the 2nd lockdown. Peter Westmacott led the last walk prior to this 2nd lockdown, an enjoyable 5.92 miles, starting from Westleton Heath car park. It was advertised as a 5-mile walk but I promised not to sue under the Trade Descriptions Act.

Seriously, these are disruptive times for everybody and obviously worrying times for people who have lost their jobs. Comparatively speaking, it is also frustrating for all Waveney group walk leaders that, for the time being, group walks have again had to be cancelled. Nevertheless, my thanks go to all these people who have put on walks which have had to be postponed. Please do not despair.

Finally, another verse from THE SPIRIT:

The spirit will not follow in the footsteps of mankind,  
it lives in timeless freedom and can never be defined.  
For it is unaffected by the happenings in life,  
and cannot be disfigured when disparity is rife.

David Harmer, Chair of Waveney Ramblers

## ***Waveney Ramblers' 2020 AGM, 19th Nov., by Zoom***

There were 22 who were able to make the meeting and it went very well. You will be pleased to know that, with the exception\* of Social Secretary, all the Committee positions were filled.

### **Waveney Ramblers' Committee for 2021**

Chair:	David
Vice-Chair:	Emma
Secretary:	Karen
Treasurer:	Mike
Membership Sec:	Roger
FP Secretary 1:	Robert
FP Secretary 2:	Pat
Programme Sec:	Roger
Technology Officer:	Neil
Area Rep 1:	David
Area Rep 2:	Emma
Social Secretary:	vacant*
General Committee Members:	
	Michael (Hon.)
	Margaret
	Stefania
	Debbie
Auditor:	Robert
Newsletter Editor:	Tony

\* Ash has since expressed an interest, so we might have a full house.



### ***Ramblers Head Office, change of address***

Please note that Ramblers has moved its head office from *2nd Floor, Camelford House, 87-90 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TW* to:

**The Ramblers, 1 Clink Street, 3rd Floor, London SE1 9DG**

Phone number and email address remain the same as before, i.e.:

phone - **020 3961 3300**

email - **ramblers@ramblers.org.uk**





(Road)Maps to freedom



Last walk before lockdown

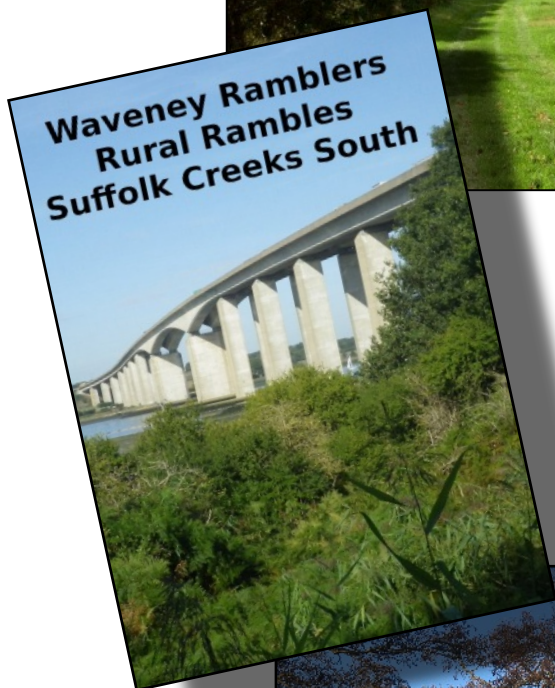




At last! The collapsed Earsham footbridge is replaced, after 6 years.  
Thanks go to David, for the great part he played in its restoration.



The path to Geldeston Locks, in January. Anyone bring waders?



**Waveney Ramblers  
Rural Rambles  
Suffolk Creeks South**

**Saints walk - 11th October**

**Rural Rambles  
Suffolk Creeks South  
*see opposite page***



**Halesworth Millennium Green Walk**



## ***Technology Update***

### **Email**

Waveney Ramblers now has its own email address.

**waveneyramblers@gmail.com**

Neil is the "postmaster" and will answer general enquiries and forward messages if necessary.

### **Facebook**

We now have 57 members.

**<https://www.facebook.com/groups/WaveneyRamblers>**

This is useful for sharing photos, the odd bit of comedy and for making announcements. If you don't like the idea of social media, it's actually very safe if you only use it to look at Waveney Ramblers' content. Of course, you get sucked in. Neil has used Facebook to learn how to make cheese, how to ferment vegetables for sauerkraut and how to make sourdough bread.

### **Wikiloc**

**<https://www.wikiloc.com/>**

Over 100 Waveney group walks have been shared on Wikiloc. If you get the iPhone or Android app you can follow any of these walks as well as 20 million other trails internationally. If you go walking in foreign parts, this resource is wonderful!

### **Ramblers App**

You will be able to find our walks programme and those of other groups, once we are out of semi-lockdown. You can follow walking routes created by other ramblers. And Neil has started taking walk registers using the app.

The first walk had one attendee - Neil - wretched lockdown. The second walk didn't work because there was no mobile internet at the Five-Ways car park. This might get useful one day.

### **Rural Rambles - Suffolk Creeks South**

**[http://waveneyramblers.org.uk/walks/walk\\_guides/Suffolk\\_Creeks\\_South](http://waveneyramblers.org.uk/walks/walk_guides/Suffolk_Creeks_South)**

Neil has been keeping fit(ish) by walking the Suffolk coast from Flatford Mill to Bawdsey. There are 19 circular walks in a new booklet and they have all been shared on Wikiloc. Neil nearly called the booklet 'Suffolk: Up the Creeks!' When the weather improves, Neil will complete all 37 walks covering the rest of the Suffolk coast in Volume Two: Suffolk Creeks North.

## *A message from our Chair*

"Friends, Ramblers, Waveneys, lend me your ears. I come not to praise Barry and Diana Covey but to bury them." This, despite the fact that they are amongst the noblest Ramblers of them all. I feel sure that, like me, all members of the Waveney group wish them well in their move and, after move, to pastures new.

With the rollout of the vaccine, let us all hope that things quickly return to normal as we knew normal.

Thanks must go to Roger for still continuing with a walks programme, and to Karen; Neil, Robert, Pat, Mike and Michael for retaining their places on the committee. Thanks also to Emma, for consenting to be my vice chair (I will try to teach her all the vices I know) and to Margaret, Stefania, Debbie, and Ash for joining the committee.

This year's Suffolk Area AGM was, of course, held via Zoom. Consequently, Waveney will be host group next year, assuming and praying that normality returns. The cost of hiring a venue and providing coffee tea and biscuits will be a small price to pay for a return to normality.

Regards, David  
Chair of Waveney Ramblers



### **Bill Dennington**

We are saddened to hear that Bill died some weeks ago from Covid-19 which he apparently caught at James Paget hospital whilst there for another problem.

Bill walked for quite a few years on Wednesday rambles, from the late 1990s onwards. He will be remembered as a mine of information regarding the local area, and new and old members enjoyed chatting with him on the walks. In addition to his love of walking, he was a season ticket holder for many years at Norwich City and also a very keen gardener.

*finally, don't forget . . .*



**Contributions** for next edition of *The Waveney Rambler* (Newsletter) should be sent, by **23rd May, 2021**, to: **Tony**

Suffolk IP19 8HF (tel. ) or email to:

Please note that articles ought not exceed **350 words**, unless approved by the editor. **Your photos are always welcome - the more the merrier.**