

Waveney Ramblers Newsletter

Number 93 March 2024

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Editorial by Tony

After one of the wettest winters on record it is, perhaps, unsurprising that a number of walks have had to be changed or abandoned in recent months. This had highlighted the need to always check Waveney Ramblers website before you head off. Details of this and other checks that leaders and walkers should do are covered in an article by Neil in this Newsletter.

The programme of walks has slowly shifted from its rigid 4 monthly format towards a continually updated format. Therefore, it is more difficult to assess how well we are doing in maintaining regular walks every Wednesday and weekends. However, you may have noticed that several members of our committee have had to step in to provide walks recently when gaps remained unfilled for which we are very grateful.

So, back to our old hobby-horse; we desperately need more members to volunteer to lead walks and the spring/early summer season would be ideal for those thinking they should 'give it a go.' If you need help or guidance, just ask one of the current walk leaders.

If you look forward in the programme you will spot that from 2nd March Neil is leading 20 of the Waveney Way walks on Saturdays through until December which would be good to support.

Tony

Either side of the Bungay – Earsham road looked like this on the Jan 3rd Walk



A Happy New Year to You All

I would like to thank all our members for supporting the Waveney Ramblers in 2023 and it was good to see several new members join us.

We had a busy programme of walks for 2023 in the Waveney Area and Neil provided an excellent walking holiday in North Norfolk which several members were able to join him. Thank you, Neil, for arranging this.

In December we enjoyed our Christmas Lunch & Walk arranged by Sue and Roger. Thank you.

A reminder to carry an '[In Case of Emergency Card](#)' available from Walk leaders if you do not have one.

I am looking forward to another year as Chair with the kind support of you all.

Best Wishes
Margaret, Chair

Waiting for the ice cream shop to open!



Walks Safety Update

Ramblers have carried out a consultation and we are hoping to get greatly simplified safety and walk leader guidance in 2025. We are hoping for a generic risk assessment covering most of our walks. We hope leaders will no longer need to write a risk assessment for every walk. Special walks involving mountains, zip wires or bungee jumping will still need a written risk assessment. For now, please stick to the existing system and have a look at our page on safety ...

waveneyramblers.org.uk/safety

Please check for programme changes before setting out.

Foul weather, road closures and other incidents might require last minute adjustments or cancellations.

waveneyramblers.org.uk/programme

Group Holiday - South Downs Postponed

Foul weather prevented recce expeditions before Christmas. These recces might be possible from March 2024. The group holiday could now take place in April 2025. Please keep an eye on the programme. We'll need volunteer walk leaders.

Suffolk Area AGM - Walk afterwards.

2024 - Sat Feb 3rd -10:30 - Up to 5 Miles walk afterwards

Margaret W 07914 057678

Meet: Oulton Broad, St Marks Church Hall, Bridge Road, car park at rear

NR33 9JX TM 51989 92327 OS Map: X 231, OL 40

detect.socket.free

The guest speaker will be Tom Platt. Director of Advocacy and Engagements. There will be a Q&A.

Food: Please bring a picnic lunch.

Please park behind the church. There is overflow parking in the pay and display opposite the church. After the AGM and lunch there will be a walk in the local Carlton Marshes and Lake Lothing area.

Flooded meadows near Earsham Dam



A welcome apple stop on the Broome Walk



Hands On Heritage Centre for our stop in Tunstall Forest on 27th December



Suffolk Walking Festival

www.facebook.com/suffolkwalkingfestival/

The festival takes place May 11th to 26th and celebrates Suffolk's natural landscapes and built heritage with guided walks in every corner of the county.

The festival is a great way to discover parts of Suffolk you perhaps never knew existed, learn about the county's fascinating and ancient history, and make new friends whilst walking and talking! There is something for everyone, from short walks to long walks, family walks to history walks, even night walks. The programme comes out on 1st March and you must book your place and pay a small sum.

Last walk of the year passing a famous “Banksy” artwork.



Three Short Videos for a Wet Day

These videos were recorded for a Walk Leader Training day organised by Suffolk Area Ramblers. The information is still useful a few years later. And Google Earth is just wonderful. Fly anywhere on the planet and have a look!

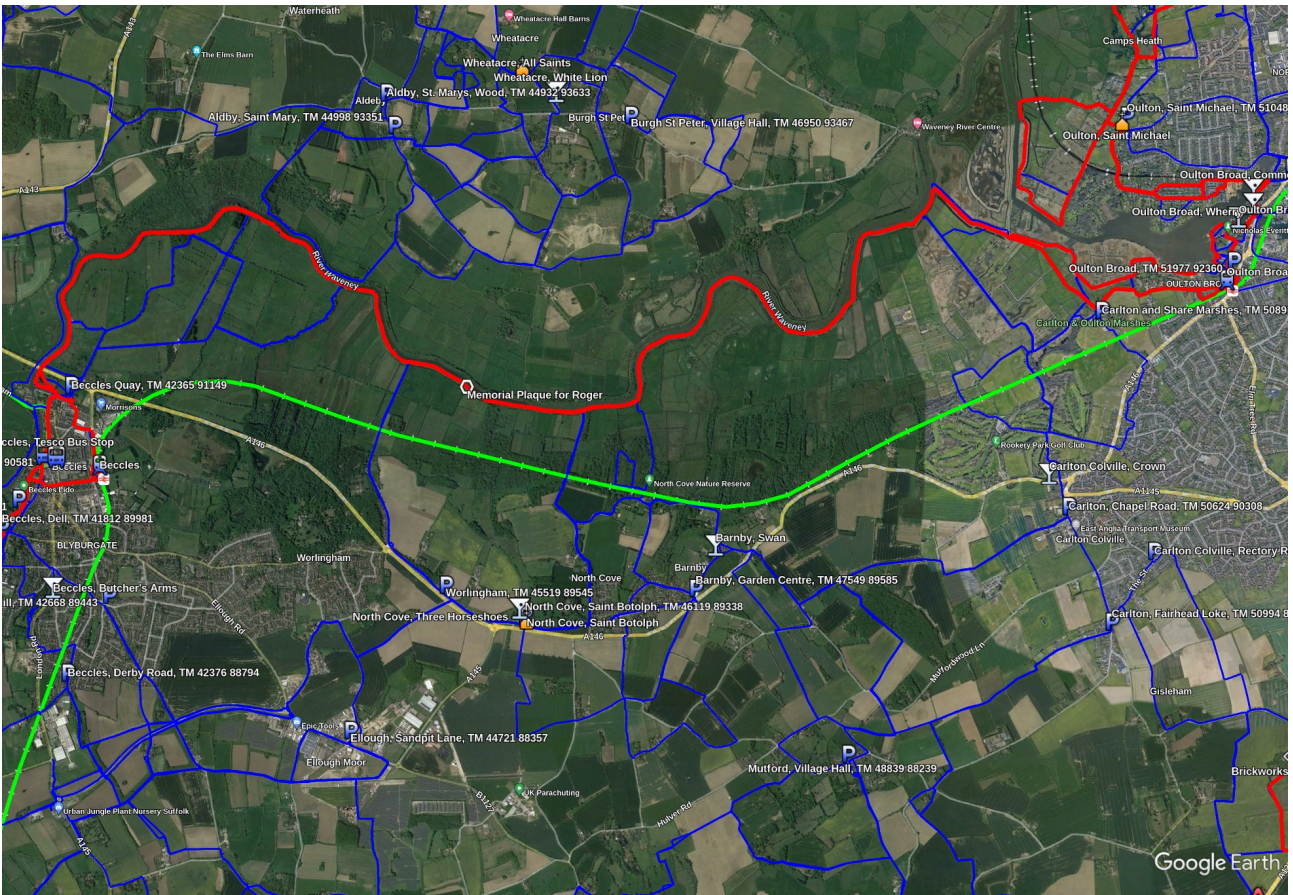
[Google Earth for Walk Planning](#)

[OpenStreetMap for Walk Planning](#)

[SatNav file formats and GPS Babel](#)

Google Earth – View Over 900 Walks for Our Group

Download and open this in Google Earth ... [Waveney Ramblers.kml](#)



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