DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 29th July – Family Walk, Telford Town Park

Saturday 18th August – Coach Trip, Borth to Aberystwyth. See page 4

Sunday 12th August – Family Walk, “Discover With Darwin”

Tuesday 11th September – Coach Trip, Formby and the Lancashire Coast. See page 6

Saturday 22nd September – Workshops and Discussions. See Page 9
Session No: 1 - Walk Leaders Presentation / Conversation: 9.30am – 12.00pm.
Session No: 2 - Intro to IT Route Planning, Navigation, Smartphone, GPS: 12.45pm - 4.30pm

Offers of walks for the Nov 2018 – Feb 2019 programme should be sent to the appropriate co-ordinator by Friday 15th September 2018
Away Week 2018: Barmouth - Kath Bristow on behalf of the Barmouth Planning Group

Five days of gorgeous weather and fabulous walking in the hills above and around Barmouth overlooking an improbably still blue sea and estuary were enjoyed by 17 Shrewsbury Ramblers towards the end of May.

We clambered up to the flag to look down on the town before walking back along the bay; stood high above Harlech Castle on Moel Goedog; were ‘supervised’ by Cadair Idris as we made our way to Penmaenpool via Cregennan lakes; took the train to Llwyngwril where we delighted in the knitwear festival before walking back to Barmouth via the Blue Lake and marvelled at the amazing views from the accessible New Precipice path near Dolgellau. A small group enjoyed similarly pleasurable walks in the same areas (we met up on 3 of the walks) and one member, relatively new to group walking, explored the area by train/foot/boat – and always managed at least 10,000 steps a day!

We were all invited for tea by Rose Gillam and friends at their lovely cottage at Penmaenpool and 13 of us ate the traditional Thursday evening meal at The Captain’s Table in Barmouth. We sampled ice cream in Harlech, the local beer and several eateries, and the 4 of us who were left on Friday evening escaped the only significant rain of the trip by listening to live jazz at Barmouth’s Dragon Theatre.

It was a wonderful week – largely thanks to Hil Procter, Steve Lowe, Ray Clarke and Rose Gillam who led the memorable walks - aided by the beautiful scenery, perfect weather and the great company of fellow walkers. Thanks everyone!
COACH TRIP BORTH TO ABERYSTWYTH
BOOKING FORM

Date: Saturday 18 August 2018
Depart: 8.15 am from Abbey Foregate car park (Old Potts Way)
(Optional pick-up at Welshpool Old Railway Station)
Return: from Aberystwyth at 5 pm
Leader: Phil Barnes (01939 809037)
Cost: £10.00

The Walk: A spectacular route along the Coastal path from Borth to Aberystwyth. Mainly following the cliff top with a few ascents and descents. The distance is 6 miles and the grade is moderate.

The trip is open to non-walkers (subject to availability) who may wish to spend a day in Aberystwyth. Walkers will also have free time at the end of the walk.

To book your place(s) on the coach please complete the slip below and send it with your cheque to Peter Greeve, 1 High Ridge Way, Shrewsbury, SY3 6DJ

Please make cheques payable to: Ramblers Association SS6

BORTH TO ABERYSTWYTH

Name(s): ........................................................................................................................................
Address: .................................................................................................................................
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Telephone Number: ...........................................................
Number of Seats: ...............at £10 per seat
TOTAL: £ ..............................
Ray Knowles 1932-2018 by Peter Greeve

Ray moved to Shropshire in 1988 having already been an active member of Aylesbury Group, where he pioneered a long distance footpath known as the Aylesbury Ring. On arrival in Shrewsbury, Ray joined a group of fellow walkers who although very welcoming were relatively few in number, with walks limited to once every three weeks. In fact there was some concern about the group’s future. Ray then applied himself with characteristic vigour to taking things forward assisted by a few other founder members. Within a year the walks programme had increased and membership expanded from a handful of walkers to around 100 members.

In addition to a weekly Sunday walk, Ray was instrumental in establishing walks on Wednesday evenings and expanded a Tuesday group as well as also leading Rail Rambles. In successive years Ray, supported by his wife Jennifer, largely concentrated on Tuesday walks. Over the years he led nearly every week, choosing walks to match the seasons and in varied locations. Additionally, several bus rambles each year and an annual Away Week extended the range of walks and places visited. So popular were coach trips that he would leave the collection of fares until the day of the trip.

Ray stepped down from leading Tuesday walks in 2002 but continued to walk with the group until his health failed and somewhat cruelly was unable to enjoy his passion for walking. He nevertheless continued to support the ramblers and for several years audited the annual accounts. During his time with Shrewsbury Ramblers Ray inspired many of us who followed his lead, with his knowledge of the places we walked and his willingness to share his expertise on wildflowers and nature.

Remembering Ray - A Walk in his Memory

Ray sadly died in January and after a private ceremony, at his request, his ashes were returned to nature in his adopted and much-loved county. In remembrance, a walk dedicated to Ray will take place on Tuesday 31 July, the anniversary of his birth and replicates the walk held to commemorate his 80th birthday in 2012.

Details of the walk are listed in the current programme and the lunch stop will be in the garden of Ray and Jennifer’s home in Hanwood. For anyone not joining the walk but who would nevertheless like to join us in the garden you are most welcome. Walkers intend to arrive around 12 noon.

Plans are advanced to establish a lasting tribute to Ray and we are working in concert with Shropshire Wildlife Trust to provide an oak tree in a location that can be visited by walkers. The conservation area where the tree will be sited is close to the car park on Pontesford Hill and the public footpath is also included in Walk 17 of our publication ‘20 Walks in and around Shrewsbury’ (close to point 8 on the sketch map).

If you would like to make a donation to this memorial and for further information please either contact me on 01743 240686/ pgreeve@talktalk.net or on the 31 July if you are able to attend.
COACH TRIP TO FORMBY AND THE LANCASHIRE COAST
BOOKING FORM

Date: Tuesday 11\textsuperscript{th} September 2018

Depart: 8.15 am from Cineworld on Old Potts Way
Return: From Formby at 4.30 pm

Leader: Al Davies 353782
Cost: £12.00

The Walk: A linear route of 9 miles (Easy) from Crosby Marina to Ainsdale National Nature Reserve (Squirrel Park).

The walk follows the Sefton Coastal Path, a fascinating route through the dunes including ‘Another Place’ sculptures by Anthony Gormley, circling a prehistoric forest and finishing at the Squirrel Park through pine trees, the habitat of red squirrels.

To book your place(s) on the coach please complete the slip below and send it with your cheque to Peter Greeve, 1 High Ridge Way, Shrewsbury, SY3 6DJ

[Please leave cars towards the far end of the car park behind the Harvester. The coach will collect us from outside Cineworld]

Please make cheques payable to: Ramblers Association SS6

FORMBY AND THE LANCASHIRE COAST

Name(s): ........................................................................................................................................................................

Address:

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Telephone Number: ..............................................................

Number of Seats: .................at £12 per seat

TOTAL: £ ...........................................
NEW FOOTPATH SECRETARY

We are delighted to welcome the new footpath secretary Neil Mosley to our team. Neil is a relatively new member of Shrewsbury Ramblers but is keen to get involved in maintaining the wonderful network of paths we have in our area. Please report any obstructions, broken stiles, missing signs, overgrown paths and closures to Neil and he will pass this information on to the council. If you can, please take a photo and make a note of the precise location, including the Grid Reference if possible.

Neil is also keen to make contact with any Parish Footpath Wardens who keep an eye on the condition of their local footpath network. If you know any of these officers please provide their contact details to Neil by email: mosln@hotmail.com.

SHREWSBURY P3 GROUP – Peter Knight

Shrewsbury’s Parish Paths Partnership group (P3) with the support of the county council have been busy during the past 4 months, mainly working in the Church Stretton area.

We spent some time at Goughs Coppice just east of Church Stretton completing the second 35 of 70 steps on a particularly steep and sometimes muddy slope.

Overall the P3 team have installed 4 stiles & 8 gates, 35 steps and 8 waymarker posts. We have also cleared 450 metres and hardcored 150 metres of footpath.

One particularly satisfying job in the Radbrook area of Shrewsbury, was to clear and hardcore 150 metres of extremely muddy and overgrown path. Apart from being local to home, the path (at least the field beside the path) is very well used by walkers, dog walkers, and Walking for Health groups.

Now walkers can avoid the need for wellington boots on this walk—see accompanying before & after photo’s.
SHROPSHIRE WAY MAIN ROUTE (SWMR) PROGRESS

Our display is touring the county and our flyers and website are spreading the word about our Main Route Project. As a result we are delighted that Cicerone Press has appointed John Gillham to write a guide book to the Main Route. John has recently written Hill Walking in Shropshire.

The Northern Route is defined and will take in Wem, Whitchurch, Ellesmere, Llanymynech and Nesscliffe. Most of the waymarks are in place already. The Long Distance Walkers Association has included the Southern section on their website and are planning a group walk and I have even been asked by a visitor from USA about public transport access.

We need help in maintaining this great county asset!
Gill Pursey is now our Champions coordinator and is looking for volunteers to monitor stages of the SWMR by reporting problems, installing waymarks and clearing minor overgrowth. For more information contact Gill on 01743 272986

We also need an Accommodation Officer to research accommodation and raise revenue by adverts to cover our ongoing costs. If you are interested contact Audrey on 01743 247404
Audrey Menhinick

YOU CAN’T PLEASE ALL OF THE PEOPLE ALL OF THE TIME

“Too long, too short, too strenuous, too easy, too slow, too fast” – these are all comments I have heard about walks. The perfect walk is not the same for each person and we do try and offer a range of walks to suit all tastes. Sundays and Tuesdays are generally longer walks of 7-10 miles moderate or harder while Thursdays are shorter easier walks of 4-6 miles. On the first Saturday of each month there is usually a bus ramble and on Wednesday evenings in the summer months there are short social walks ending at a pub.

If you want a different walk why not offer us suggestions or, better still, lead a walk yourself. With more walk leaders we could offer more types of walks, perhaps offering two walks on one day giving people more choices. Have a look at the support offered at the Workshops and Discussions on 22nd September. Existing walk leaders might also consider attending to update on some issues such as safeguarding. See Page 9 for details.
Shrewsbury Ramblers Workshop:
‘No Walk Leaders No Walks’.

Ramblers Association Quote: “Share your enthusiasm and passion for walking by leading people on group walks in a welcoming, safe and enjoyable way”.

NB. This informal and conversational Workshop is **FREE** to members of Shrewsbury Ramblers. It provides flexible options to attend one or both Sessions. Shrewsbury group members have priority but the Workshop will be offered to other Shropshire Rambling Groups if there is insufficient support.

Leaders: John Law and Ron Atha.
Venue: The Trinity Centre, Church Road, Meole Brace, Shrewsbury. SY3 9HF.
Date/ Time: Saturday 22nd September 2018 - Time: 09.30 hours to 16.30 hours.
Trinity Centre kitchen facilities for tea, coffee making, bring a packed lunch / snacks in case hunger strikes!

**Session No: 1 - Walk Leaders Presentation / Conversation:** 9.30am – 12.00pm.
This session will explore and consider:
- Primary responsibilities, skills, experience, route selection, planning, field craft, remote areas.
- Safety, duty of care, hazard identification, civil liability insurance, incident reporting, support available.

**Session No: 2 - Introduction to IT Route Planning, Navigation, Smartphone, Gps:** 12.45pm - 4.30pm
Increasingly across the World people are using IT, smartphones and related technologies to plan and execute a wide range of activities including rambling / tramping / hiking / mountaineering. Against this background some of the relevant software and technology used will be introduced:
- WalkLakes / Viewranger
- Google Earth / Gps, / Smartphone.
- Dependent on demand further IT training workshop(s) will be considered..

Applications to:
John Law e: johnvlaw@hotmail.com
34 Primrose Drive m: 07484 113724
Sutton Park t: 01743 363895
Shrewsbury SY3 7TP

Name(s):.......................... Tel No:.................... Attending: **Session No.1** or **Session No.2** (please tick preference(s)).
Walking is one of the safest activities anyone can do; accidents when walking are rare but can happen. Usually this is something relatively minor like a sprained ankle or broken wrist but some falls, or underlying, unknown medical conditions may cause a full blown emergency. Walks in the hills, places out of reach of mobile networks and far from a road may involve calling out the mountain rescue or getting walkers to a safe rendezvous point.

It is essential that all walkers know how to summon help to a precise location. If someone is unconscious, the emergency services need to know how to contact next of kin, if the person has any allergies or takes medication. Ramblers produce a free “In Case of Emergency” waterproof card on which you can write your own contact and medical details. It also has information about how to summon help in remote areas. These cards are available from walk co-ordinators, committee members or can be obtained from the Ramblers Association.

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

You will have received many communications from various businesses about the new GDPR which came into force last month. The Ramblers Association has to comply with this and you will have received a notice from them asking how you would like to be contacted –email, phone or post. If you have not responded to this we may not be able to send you information in the future. Please look out for further notices on this subject.

Telford T50 50 Mile Trail: Linking Communities and Green Spaces

The new Telford T50 50 Mile Trail was officially opened on 16th June by Kate Ashbrook, Chair of Ramblers. It goes through the major open spaces in Telford linking together parks, woods, pools, nature reserves and open countryside with the World Heritage Site of the Severn Gorge, birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, and the many new and historic towns and villages that make up Telford.

Starting and finishing in the award winning Telford Town Park, it is bounded by Ironbridge in the South, The Wrekin in the West, Lilleshall Hill in the North and Granville Country Park to the East. The Trail is designed to make it easy to walk from any place in Telford with easy access points from estates and bus routes. See more details on the website www.telfordt5050miletrail.org.uk