



ramblers
at the heart of walking

Barnard Castle Group

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2013

Group Members' Annual Barbecue - John

This year the Group Members' Barbecue will take place on Saturday July 6th at John & Linda's, Cotherstone. Members wishing to attend please note that it is essential to ring (01833-650034) to confirm by the evening of Thursday 4th July so that catering arrangements can be finalised. The barbecue will start at around 5.15 and the charge will be £7.00.

There will be an afternoon walk of around 7 miles starting from Cotherstone Village Hall at 1.30, which will also be open to non-members. Any member not wishing to join the walk is welcome to arrive for the barbecue at any time.

Memorial walk for Ken Ashworth - Joan

Just to remind everyone that Ian and I are leading a short 5 mile walk on Sunday June 23rd in memory of Ken. It will be a sad day for those of us who were on the walk when he died, but we want to make this a celebration of his life. We will walk the exact route we did last year. Enid is joining us at Stanwick Church where we will eat our packed lunch around 12 noon. Hopefully some of Enid's family are going to join us on the walk. Therefore, why not join us either on the walk, at the church or at the pub (The Stanwick Arms) in Aldbrough St John after the walk to drink a toast to Ken.

Slideshows 2013 - Judith

As you will see from the programme, slideshows will take place on 7th August and 2nd October. The proceeds of all the slideshows held in 2013 (with the kind permission of those giving shows) are being used to provide an accessible gate on the Pennine Way, in our area, to replace an inaccessible stile.

The Group's gift in support of this 'Donate a Gate' scheme run jointly by the Pennine Journey Supporters Club and Friends of the North Pennines, will be recorded at the site. I hope Group members will support this worthwhile project by attending the remaining shows.

Heart of Teesdale Landscape Partnership - Jo

Emma Ashton Wickett has been appointed to a part-time post as a member of Durham County Council's Access and Rights of Way team to work on the Paths for All projects. One of her first tasks has been to organise the surveying of the 'key' paths immediately on either side of the Tees and Greta within the Partnership's territory, roughly Egglestone down to Gainford, and up to God's Bridge, with the help of DCC's path Rangers. Once the surveys are complete new circular routes will be devised leading away from these key paths, with no doubt more surveys being needed. Any maintenance work considered necessary will be done as part of DCC's normal work, but enhancements will be funded by the Partnership.

The paths within Flatts Wood are in the process of being dedicated as public rights of way, and improvement work will be carried out later this year, including renewal of some of the bridges.

That missing acorn

Who would believe it? The missing acorn was found the day after the newsletter came out! Good work! It is now again doing the rounds.

Dalegarth: October 20113 - Judith

The Group's next visit to Dalegarth is from Sunday 20th to Thursday 24th October. If you wish to go please contact Judith j.baker574@btinternet.com or 01642 700062. Dalegarth is a friendly guest house on a wooded site close to the shore of Buttermere, in the same valley as Crummock Water and Loweswater. There is excellent walking for all levels of ability. High peaks include Robinson, Fleetwith Pike and Red Pike and there are plenty of walks at intermediate height. The Honister Rambler bus stops at the gate going over both Honister and Whinlatter Passes to Borrowdale, Derwentwater, Keswick and Whinlatter Forest for more walking options.

A provisional booking has also been made for April 28th (Monday) to 2nd May (Friday) next year. Please let Judith know if you are interested.

North Pennines Walking Festival – “Inspired by the North Pennines” - Jo

This new walking festival is taking place from Saturday 28th September to Sunday 6th October this year. On the first day, the whole of Wainwright's 'Pennine Journey' route will be walked by different groups who can raise funds for a charity of their choice. The festival will offer guided walks for all ages and abilities around the North Pennines, plus evening talks and events under the theme 'Inspired by the North Pennines', celebrating artists and writers past and present who have drawn their inspiration from the landscape of the North Pennines. Find out more at www.northpennines.org.uk and go to Friends of the North Pennines link, or to express an interest email fotnp@hotmail.co.uk or write to: Friends of the North Pennines, Weardale Business Centre, The Old Co-op Building, 1 Martin Street, Stanhope, Weardale, Bishop Auckland, County Durham DL13 2UY

Durham County Council's Big Spring Clean - Jo

Many thanks to the members and others who helped clear Town Pasture Lane on Sunday 28th April. A huge number of bottles and lots of other drinks and food containers were collected, filling almost all the sacks we'd been given. Jersey Farm Hotel, where we parked, were delighted, and gave us all tea and coffee after we'd finished.

The organisers have been in touch to say: *"I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your participation in the Big Spring Clean Campaign 2013. Between us we have successfully cleaned up school grounds, public parks, river banks, community centres and village greens. Councillor Gerald Lee has also expressed his appreciation: "On behalf of LitterFreeDurham, Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council I thank everyone who found the time to help clean up this beautiful area that we all share."* Let's hope all the effort and publicity will persuade the litter droppers to bin it in future!

Coastal Access - Jo Bird, Access Officer

We can expect the Durham stretch of coast to be officially opened shortly. With so many land-slips having taken place over the last few months, the benefits of coastal access being able to be automatically re-routed inland is bound to be very much appreciated.