

Barnard Castle Group

NEWSLETTER

Easter 2016

50th Anniversary walks and meal on Saturday 21st May

From Joan:

We are sure you are all aware by now that this is the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Barnard Castle Ramblers group on 16th May 1966; the first walk was on Saturday 21st May 1966, so the first of our celebratory events will take place on Saturday 21st May 2016. We have not got details of the exact route of that first walk, but as the group is walking the Teesdale way in sections as part of the celebrations, it seemed appropriate to do the section from Middleton to Barnard Castle on 21st.

Both walks will catch the 9.55 Middleton bus from Galgate (near Age UK).

Walk A will take the bus all the way to Middleton for the 11 mile walk back via Eggleston, Romalldkirk and Cotherstone passing the memorial gates to Ken and Bill. This walk will be led by Joan Collier, a founder member of the group.

Walk B will take the bus to Romalldkirk for the 8 mile walk back to Barnard Castle, using the alternative Teesdale Way via Egglestone Bridge, Barnley, Westholme and the Tees banks. This walk will be led by Joan and Ian.

Both walks will be followed by a buffet meal (supplied by the members) at Trinity Church Hall in Barnard Castle, entrance from the Scar Top.

We are hoping that as many members and former members as possible will help us to celebrate. If you can't do a walk, just come along for the meal, from 4.00pm.

From Frances:

We will be providing the food for the meal ourselves, the usual buffet fare such as quiches, meat pies, salads, cheesecakes, trifles, fruit pies, etc. In order to have a good mix of sweet and savoury dishes, members are asked to let Frances know what they will be bringing by 7th May. Tea and coffee will be supplied; for other drinks, please bring your own.

Food can be left at the hall (entrance from Scar Top) before the walks, between 9.30 and 9.45 a.m.; otherwise after 2.00 p.m. Fridges will be available so the food will be OK.

We may need to ask for a small contribution to help pay for extras.

Please contact Frances by 7th May on 01833 631361 or frances.walker@btinternet.com

Publicity Display at Bowlees (and the "Acorn")

From Joan:

From June to September 2016 we shall be having a 50th Anniversary display at Bowlees Visitors Centre and would like any interesting memorabilia or photographs that members may have. For example we would like to include the carved Acorn (the symbol of long distance paths) that the group were presented with after taking part in the 40th Anniversary of the 106 miles of the Cleveland Way in May 2009, (we walked the 10 mile section from Clay Bank to Kildale). However the Acorn seems to have vanished into a "black hole", so we would be grateful if you would look in your cupboards and see if it is lurking there. We will be delighted to see it again!

Memorial Gates

From Joan:

Last November saw the official opening of the first gate (replacing a stile) provided by the group near to Hanging Shaw at Forest of Teesdale. We now hope that the second gate that we are buying will be in place before our anniversary in May, exact location not yet known but somewhere in Ettersgill.

Coach Trip

From Richard

Now taking bookings for the Spring Coach Trip to the North Yorks Coast on Saturday 14th May 2016. Coach will leave from outside Charles Dickens Lodge, Barnard Castle at 08:15. for drop off at Ravenscar (A-Walk) and High Hawsker (B-Walk) then going on to Whitby (non-walkers). There will be 2 led walks:

A-Walk: Ravenscar to Whitby: 12 leisurely miles via Boggle Hole and Robin Hoods Bay and Cleveland Way. Cliff tops and disused Railway Lines. Leader: Lynda. tel:01833 640258 mob:07813 697906.

B-Walk: High Hawsker to Whitby: 9.5 leisurely miles via Robin Hoods Bay (or 7.5 miles missing out Robin Hoods Bay without leader.) and Cleveland Way. Leader: Frances. tel:01833 631361. mob: 07531 061029. Both walks will finish with plenty of time for 'Fish and Chips' in Whitby. Leaving at 18:00 arriving Barnard Castle approx. 20:00. Cost of the Coach will be around £12.00 per head.

Please book (£5.00 deposit required) with Richard tel:01833 660780. mob:07932 180575. or ***email:bcramblers@gmail.com*** before 1st May 2016.

Anniversary Slide Show

From Judith

A slide show to celebrate the group's 50th birthday will be held on 1st June (details in the programme). This should be a good evening for everyone to celebrate this milestone. Joan, Ian and Maggie are showing their slides of group activities over the years and are willing to include any special requests. If you have any special memories, please contact Joan.

Other Slide Shows

There will be three other slide shows this year; the first will be on Wednesday 6th April, when John and Julie will talk about their recent travels in India. On 3rd August Jenny and Gordon will talk about their experiences when completing The Great Outdoors Challenge, and on 5th October Judith will talk about her recent travels.

Ramblers Walking Partnership

Once again, a reminder to all members to mention Barnard Castle Group, when booking Ramblers Holidays. The group received £40 last year from this scheme, which will be used to reduce the cost of the Anniversary Book of Walks.

Group Holiday 2016

I've talked to some members about the possibility of another holiday at an HF house in October I'll be happy to arrange one if sufficient people are interested. The following locations have been suggested:

1. Malham/Grassington area.
2. Shropshire Hills/Welsh Borders
3. Derbyshire Dales

Please let me know by April 16th if you are interested in going (j.baker574@btinternet.com) Or 01642 700062 and say which area you prefer. Obviously 2 and 3 above will also need transport arranging but that is no problem.

Summer Barbecue Saturday 9th July 2016

Linda has very kindly invited Barnard Castle members to a summer barbecue at Cotherstone on Saturday 9th July. There will be a walk from Cotherstone in the afternoon, followed by the barbecue. Details will follow in the walks programme for July. Put the date in your diary.