



IVW Newsletter January 2019

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2019 and I hope you are all well and looking forward to another year of great walks and social events, as well as weekends away and holidays. The nights are starting to draw out and winter sun is always a blessing, with time seemingly moving quicker than ever, spring and summer are not far away.

Again, this year we will keep you up to date with what is happening in Ivel Valley Walkers following the recent committee meeting. Firstly, perhaps you've noticed a change to our website and that it has been re-designed with walk information now linked to the main Ramblers website – we hope you find walks on the programme to be much better presented. It is now a lot easier for the webmaster, hence the move. Secondly, calls to lead walks on our summer programme have gone out to walk leaders. If you want to lead a walk, please contact our Programme Secretary, Alan and there is a Walk Leaders training course on Saturday 4th April at Cranfield Village Hall. Thirdly, IVW are now being charged 30p by the bank to accept cheques from members and while the accounts remain strong, the fee can be covered. However, steps are underway to get an internet account and allow members to pay via BACS.

Key items from the committee meeting held on 22nd January 2019

Changing the format of the AGM

At the last AGM, Tony suggested it might be beneficial to hold this year's AGM on a weekend, allowing more members to attend. On discussion, the Committee agreed a trial change, adopting to hold the AGM on Sunday 10th November 2019, (post meeting note: date to be confirmed). The format would be to hold a Sunday Split Walk from the carpark at Old Warden, starting at the usual time (10:00) and normal distance (7.5 miles). Upon return, refreshments would be given to those attending the AGM which should begin at 13:30 hours. Members not wishing to attend the



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AGM – the afternoon walk would continue as per usual. Full details will be confirmed in subsequent walk programmes and announcements.

IVW Policy on Events

Concerns have been raised about booking a place on events when the number of spaces has been limited by the organiser, for example on a coach trip or a holiday. IVW have always offered places on a first come basis but the Committee have had to extend this policy to prioritise places to IVW members first before non-members. We welcome members from other groups but have had to add priority when numbers are limited. Luckily, it does not happen often. The Committee also made it clear that no event is bookable until booking forms have been issued in the Walks Programme or on the website. In other words, no prior reservations are allowed. However, it is a testament to our fantastic programme that we face such a dilemma and in particular we thank the organisers of these events.

There was also a discussion to put on more events in the evenings or at weekends so that those who work weekdays are not excluded.

Walk Leader GDPR permissions

Just a gentle reminder to all walk leaders to complete and return to Andy Knight the Publishing Volunteer Details form sent out in an email dated 9th January 2019.

Ramblers Walking Holidays (RWH) – Walking Partnership

A big thanks to all of you who went on a Ramblers Walking Holiday and indicated you were members of IVW when using the walking partnership scheme. We have received £300 in the last financial quarter.

If any member is planning to go on an RWH holiday in the UK or abroad, please indicate you are a member of IVW on the application form or online. The club is registered with the walking partnership and will receive a donation into our account.

The contribution structure is:

UK holidays - £10 per person booked

Short haul holidays - £20 per person booked

Long haul holidays - £30 per person booked

Proposed Events for 2019

Roger presented ideas for social events to the Committee which was whittled down to an acceptable number. While we cannot provide most dates, we believe the following would be of interest to members. Please indicate interest to any committee member when on walks in the coming weeks.



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The events proposed are:

- Canal boat trip and accompanying walk in the summer
- Dog Racing at Henlow one evening
- Gliding at Dunstable Downs sometime in spring or summer
- Curling at the new ice rink in Cambridge (Autumn time)
- Barn Dance in the Autumn
- Mulled wine Amble to accompany the Mulled wine Ramble

The list is indicative only

Events Calendar 2019 – Decided Upon

- Thursday 21st March – Railway Walk – Birmingham
- Sunday 28th April to Friday 3rd May – Alfriston holiday – FULLY BOOKED
- Sunday 19th May – Coach trip to Virginia Water and Windsor
- Monday 10th to Wednesday 12th June – City Explorer Break – Liverpool
- Wednesday 19th June – Summer Hog Roast – Langford Bowls Club
- Friday 4th to Sunday 7th October – Weekend break to Great Malvern
- Sunday 20th October – Coach trip to Aldeburgh & Suffolk Coast

ENJOY!

For further information please check the current Walks Programme and our website for the most up to date information.

www.ivelvalleywalkers.co.uk

Graham Mills
Ivel Valley PR Officer