



Forthcoming Events

Christmas Dinner – Thursday 10 December

We are at Newport Golf Club again this year. The format is as previous years, we meet 7.00pm to eat at 7.45pm. The cost is £15.00. Ring KGP on 01633 894172 or e.mail him at kgphillips@talktalk.net to book your place.

Peter Elliott's Christmas Walk and and Lunch – Sunday 13 December

The Christmas Walk and Lunch finishes at Wetherspoons Ebbw Vale where £9 covers a main course, a drink and a dessert! The train goes from Pye Corner to Ebbw Vale Parkway (fare is not included in the meal price). The walk then follows the Silent Valley Way. Return after the meal from the new station in Ebbw Vale town which is about 10 minute walk from the pub. Let Peter know in good time to book the meal.

SGR Christmas Walk and Lunch – Tuesday 29 December

The Christmas Walk and Lunch will take place at the Hall Inn, Gwehelog. Meet in the Civic Centre as usual to leave at 9:30am or go to the pub where we leave at 10am. Eat at 1:30pm or as soon as the walkers are ready. Fred will circulate the menu when he receives it. The cost will be about £12 for the main course with sweets and drinks extra. Order extras at the bar, Let Fred know your menu selection on 01633 266647 by 15 December, preferably earlier.

Burns Nicht walk – Sunday 24 January

Dave will lead a walk celebrating Burns Nicht on Sunday 24 January, the nicht before the actual nicht. Set off from the Civic Centre as usual, but return to Wetherspoons Maindee for haggis with chappit neeps and whiskey gravy and a drink for about £5.

Okehampton week away –

Sunday 28 February to Thursday 3 March

A return to Okehampton, a popular suggestion for the week away, features the usual walks on Dartmoor, indoor sports and other pastimes. Cost is £225 for a twin room and £259 for a single. **Ring Derek on 01291 420118 as soon as possible. Booking has to close on 15 December.**

Skittles – Thursday 10 March

Our Skittles Match, at £6.50 per head with a light buffet provided by Jan and Jen, will take place at Whiteheads with a 7:30pm start. Doors open at 7pm. Pay at the event. Let Ken know in advance that you are going so that catering requirements can be determined.

Day trip to Stratford – June

Details later.

Day trip to the Welsh Botanical Gardens – July

Details later

Boules Evening – Tuesday 19 July

Dave will arrange the annual Boules Evening at the Wheatsheaf, Llanhennock, with the option of a meal beforehand. Details later.

SGR Barbecue – Sunday 7 August

The annual Barbecue will take place at Tintern with catering by Sue Shea. Details later.

Slimbridge – October

Ivor will try to book for a group visit. Details later.

News from Past Events

Coach Trips There were two, the first a return visit to Buddleigh Salterton in May. My thanks to Derek for leading the long and short walk, quite a feat but the boy did well. We revisited Bicton Botanical Gardens and had our customary train ride which we all enjoyed. To round off an excellent day Mary had found an excellent venue for our evening meal, a carvery which was exceptional. Thanks Mary for all your help. Our second trip was to Oxford.

Oxford Derek led a 10mile linear walk and Joan took us into Oxford City where we visited Magdalen University followed by a tour of the many outstanding buildings. We finished up with a very pretty riverside walk. Well done Joan (marks -11 out of 10!!) Once again we stopped off for an evening meal on our way home.

Skittles We have a new name on our cup this year - Peter Davies. Peter was a guest of Jan and Jen and played a blinder. Can he do the double in November this year? Colin will give him a stern test.

Boules The weather was not good this year and we had just finished the round robin format when the weather took a turn for the worse and we decided to call a halt. Twenty-three of

our members took part and the winning team this year was Jan, Dave, Sue, Chris, Dinah and Babs We all enjoyed our meal prior to playing and our thanks to Dave for organising it.

Barbecue Last year hurricane Bertha was due to arrive on the day of the BBQ and common sense demanded that we heed it and cancel the event. First time ever but we did make the right decision as the weather was in fact awful. This year, the weather was better and Derek was able to lead his walk. Phyllis and Joan organised the refreshments and it is good to note that our two master chefs Doug and John were once again in charge of the cooking. Twenty-five of our members enjoyed a good day. Thanks to all who helped make it so.

Week Away – This year thirty-six of us went to **Guernsey**. We were last there in 2006 when twenty-one of us made the trip. Last time we flew from Bristol, this time we went by ferry from Poole. The holiday didn't start too well when we were advised that we were being picked up at 4.30am. However, we were all there on time and everything went to plan. Our hotel Pandora was good and the food was first class.

The weather for our first walk was not the best!! Even the non walkers got wet. On Wednesday, the weather improved and our coach trip of the island enabled us to see the scenery at its best. Some of our group were going to visit Sark but the sea conditions were not to their liking and in the end only one, Steve Atkins, braved the waves.

The walk on Thursday was the best of all. The scenery was spectacular and when we visited the Jerbourg Hotel for refreshments the fare was excellent. Our evening entertainment consisted of our now usual musical quiz Ted (did you know he was born under a Wandering Star) and Colin Raymond were worthy of note. We also took Adrian's advice and visited The Cock and Bull pub which was just down the road from the hotel. Sandra and Dave did a great job leading the walks and all too soon it was time to come home.

Other News

We continue to support the **Ruperra Trust** whose members maintain the grounds of the Ruperra estate, they really do an excellent job. They are always open to volunteers and if you feel you would like to help or would like more information on what exactly they do, give Sue Price a ring on 07977599181.

Our **memorial bench** remains in good condition on the motte.

At our 2013 AGM it was suggested we should become members of **Ramblers Holidays Walking Partnership** so that our group could benefit from the bonuses available when members booked a holiday with them. I am pleased to report that we have received £50 to date, so if you do decide to book one in future and claim the bonus on booking, please let Ken know (01633 894172 or kgphillips@talktalk.net) so that he can chase the bonus if needed.

Earlier this year the Ramblers embarked on an ambitious project called the **Big Pathwatch**. To date they have completed 33% of the project which is absolutely fantastic. However, there is still a long way to go. Updated information is available on the Ramblers Association website and if you want to help in any way give Ken or Fred a ring.

Our Area Chair and Secretary had a meeting with the Welsh Chair back in August, the purpose of which was to get the views of our groups on the **role of the Welsh Council and the role of Areas and Groups**. We have completed a questionnaire on governance and this will be discussed at the next Welsh Council which will be on 9 and 10 April 2016 in Lampeter.

Ramblers Worldwide Holidays

Ramblers Worldwide Holidays Summer brochures are packed full of great holidays. Brochures available are - Worldwide Holidays for walks abroad almost anywhere on the planet, Countrywide Holidays for walks in Britain, Adagio Holidays for leisurely and more touristic holidays, and finally Cruise and Walk holidays. If you have not received a copy of their brochure, please call on 01707 331133 or email on info@ramblersholidays.co.uk. Alternatively, you can visit website www.ramblersholidays.co.uk. They will be happy to help with any query.

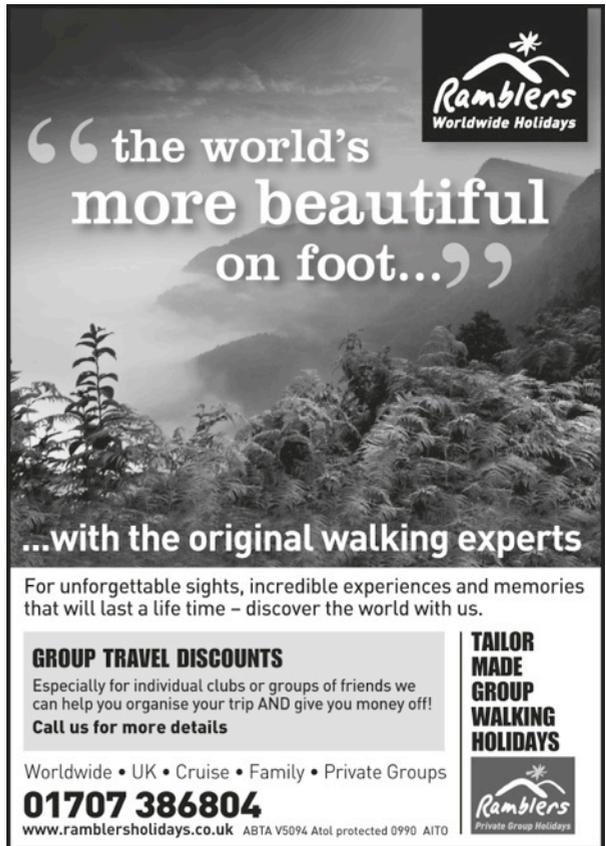
Organise a Private Group holiday with them. You benefit from their dedicated, personal Groups service and receive new benefits. If you have 10 or more people in your group, you will each receive one of our exclusive luggage straps – ideal for spotting your case on the airport carousel. With 16 or more you will also receive a 5% discount. And if you have 20 in the group, your group organiser will get a free solar powered mobile phone charger.

To organise such a holiday, call them on 01707 386723 or email them at

groups@ramblersholidays.co.uk .

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