

Newsletter

April 2020

(4/20)



No sooner had the summer walks programme been issued than all Ramblers walks until June were regrettably cancelled due to the coronavirus crisis. [Central Office guidance](#) is reviewed daily in the light of government advice.

Dear All,

I hope you are all keeping well and that you haven't completely hung up your boots. It is very frustrating that, having walked through the mud all winter, now it is dry we are limited in what we can do.

As I'm sure you will have realised, the publicity display in the Pavements in Chesterfield hasn't happened and unfortunately the Canal Festival has been

cancelled - so our plans to use these events to recruit new members have been scuppered. We hope to run the display later in the year. Although our walking is curtailed it is heartening to see couples out walking together and with luck we may be able to convert them to Ramblers in the future.

[Beat the Street](#) (the Chesterfield Borough Council event to increase physical activity) has also been shortened because of coronavirus - but they are moving into the 'Sustain' phase and we may be able to gain some members as a result.

It is difficult to keep in touch with people at the moment and if members have not given Central Office their email address we cannot send them the newsletter. Please encourage anyone you know who falls into this category to do so as it will make it easier when we are trying to draw up the next programme.

Keep safe and well.

Isobel (Group Chair)

Many thanks

Our thanks go out to John Newrick who has now retired from the group committee after over ten years service.

Living out in the Peak he has been a valuable link to the area where most of our walks take place, not least the Peak District Green Lanes Association, which seeks to protect our rights of way from motor transport.

One of our more active walkers over the years, particularly on Saturday summer 'marathons' we look forward to continue being exposed to his sense of humour in the future.

Committee meetings, like all such activity, has been curtailed by the virus 'lockdown' but we hope to resume them later this month with video conferencing digitally from our bedrooms / kitchens / sheds, etc.

Reiterating Isobel's words, please keep Central Office (who hold membership records) updated with any changes to your email address. A gentleman from Dallas, Texas recently emailed us saying he was interested to be receiving information from us but felt that walking in Derbyshire was a little far from him to go.



Rebecca Dawson
@Agri_becca

Seeing friends for the first time in weeks... [?] [🤔] [👍] [👏]
through the power of Zoom and two @StagWalkers
Friday night socials- 'After Work Drinks' and 'Virtual
Pub Quiz' (I was Quiz Mistress this week). ❤️ I miss my
friends and my weekend walks! @RamblersGB
#RoamSweetHome



Tweet your reply



Who said the red phone box was obsolete ?

(April 2014)

A Look Back at our 1988 Group Walking Programme

I have kept every one of our programmes since April 1988 and find it interesting to look through them from time to time. I'm not sure what caused me to start in that year, as by then Eileen and I had already been walking with the group for about 10 years.

I know there are some older programmes around, as Collin Cross has shown me some that he has. I wonder if anyone has a complete set, going back to when the Group was first set up?

So, what did the 1988 programme look like? First thing is its small size - overall the same as today, but just one sheet of walks inside the covers. Our Chair then was Angela Amner, who I know is still around and see from time to time - greetings, Angela, if you are reading this.

What's not in is very striking - no Wednesday day time walks are shown at all; just this note -

Midweek rambles are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month starting at 10am from the Heritage Centre. Please bring money for bus fares.

Most of these walks were led by the wonderful Norman Mason, who many of us recall with affection and have stories they could tell about Norman's famous walks. He seemed to know every single path in a very wide radius around Chesterfield and (I'm told) rarely got lost. Norman also served as our group treasurer for many many years and I recall he managed with an exceedingly simple book-keeping system.

There were midweek evening walks during the summer, each Wednesday from the beginning of May to mid August. The mainstay of the programme was Sunday walks every week, 12 to 15 miles in length. Just two exceptions - one Sunday was set aside for Family Rambling Day, with two walks - one of 3 to 4 hours for small children and one of 5 hours 'for strong legs', led by Auntie Angela. The second exception was a 25 miler, led by Ted Pullen, around Edale, Alport Bridge and the Snake Pass.

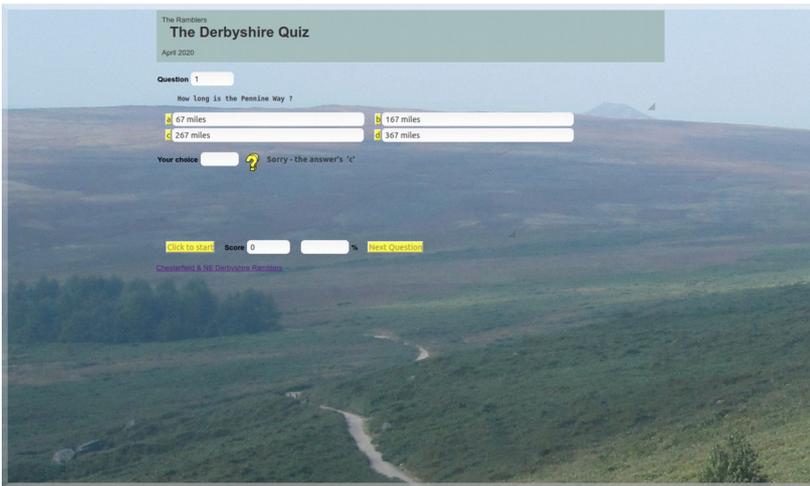


The only other walks in the programme were on Saturdays and at that stage there was just one each month. One thing from those days we haven't had for some time are the evening illustrated talks, which the programme reminded us took place fortnightly in the Central Library Lecture Theatre (admission 50p); I recall that these were all organised by Norman Mason as well.

I found it rather salutary to compare the names of leaders in the 1988 and current programmes, with just two names appearing in both programmes - myself and Jane Shute. I am aware there are others who were leading and walking at that time who still lead walks for us - Collin Cross being one of them.

How times have changed. I hope you find this interesting - perhaps others of you have memories of those early days to also share.

David Blackburn



**An Italian farmer
in 'lockdown' ?**

<https://dontloseyourway.ramblers.org.uk/>



Ramblers Charity England & Wales No : 1093577

Email: cnedramblers@gmail.com

Phone: 07942 259280

