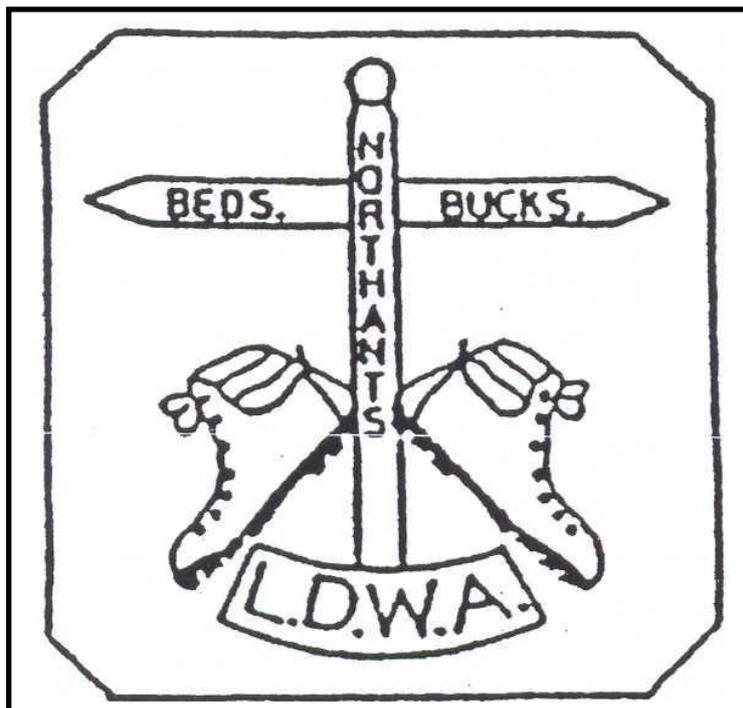


**BEDS, BUCKS, &
NORTHANTS
GROUP
NEWSLETTER**
October 2010



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Cor blimey guys, its that time again

Well what have we been up to since the last Newsletter?

Of course the big stories are of course, Steve Smith made a lady out of Pearl who became Mrs Steve Smith in August, that was a good day, some of us staying in the local hotel so we could get ??? err have a few, and of course Judy Wheeldon became a proud Mrs John Nickerson on the 14th of October, another great day was had by all. A few photos (notice the spelling “photos” please Merriam) will go on the web site very soon, if not before you read your N/L

We’ve been back to the Lakes again with John and Judy but John and Judy was not there “ummm”, walked to Gravenhurst with Colin, and down the canal with Roger and DFH. Plus in the N/L we have some more of the usual old stuff like the good old AGM coming up.

So my dear friends, fellow countrymen/women enjoy this issue of the N/L and I’ll see you on the trail somewhere

**All articles for the Feb
 2011 N/L by 16-02-2011
 please.**

All yours when your lonely

Stevecee xx

THE HERTS STROLLER – 14/15th AUGUST 2010

One Walkers Remarkable Achievement

It was the middle of the night, 40 miles walked, 14 to go when Betty enquired of Dee's friend (and boss!) Simon "so how much exactly can you see?"; to which came the reply "Er well, not much really but if Dee is OK in front of me then I will be OK as well".

Simon is partially sighted suffering from the progressive genetic disease Retina Pigmentosa, a condition that leads to incurable blindness. Night blindness precedes tunnel vision and as Simon already has tunnel vision and poor perception of distance during the day, enough said. He had also never walked further than the classic 26-mile marathon distance in the past. He never complained once (well only a teeny bit about his blisters) and the smile never left his face. He was too busy enjoying the camaraderie and team spirit that inevitably results from a group of 8 walkers, walking 54 miles together and determined that everyone will complete the task in hand.

Simon was not the only group member attempting to improve their "distance walked pb" by at least 15 miles. Chris, one of 6 BBN members in the group, and Ian, another friend enlisted by Dee (her list of friends may be rapidly decreasing!) both broke new boundaries. Ian chose to keep the group amused by his repeated habit of leaving things at checkpoints. On one occasion, when he returned for his route description, the group stopped to wait for him, not realising he had temporarily morphed into Linford Christie and had already rejoined them. Thinking there must be another Ian in the group, he then proceeded to search for himself. The phrase "finding oneself" started to take on a whole new meaning.

Being 8 of us, we just had to be Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs. "I'm Snow White," said Dee, "Why does that not surprise me?" said Betty. Everyone else volunteered for the sought after role of Grumpy but the project was abandoned when realisation dawned....Steve Clark was not part of the group and so Bashful was definitely missing!

As darkness fell 'night group strategy' was implemented. Simon had a big, powerful head torch, which he insisted allowed him to see 'a kind of circle of ground' right in front of his feet. Dee, sporting a bright yellow jacket walked 2/3 yards in front and Betty lead the way a further 20 yards in front, warning of forthcoming hazards such as tree roots, low branches and, of course, the dreaded puddles. The other men lead the group and admirably took on all navigational duties. Naturally, someone's new found responsibilities just had to go to their head. Betty decided her puddle spotting abilities were second to none, deriding everybody else's efforts, and insisting we all attend her future training session "Puddle Spotting: The Right Way!". Some people are such show offs!

As everyone got progressively more tired (that means knackered Steve) the difference between male and female attitude became apparent. At later checkpoints the ladies appeared to enjoy their food and pass around the sweets. The man removed smelly socks and shoes and ogled at the size of their blisters. Simon probably couldn't see his very well but he insisted they were the biggest. Point of fact; they probably were.

Joking apart, the event was, for me, a very special and emotional event. Simon's achievement and the unfailing faith he put in the group was truly inspirational. I will never forget the bear hug he gave me at the end. Ian's family, grandchildren included, were up before the Sunday dawn, to witness his enormous grin as he crossed the finish line. Both talked of their enjoyment of being part of such a friendly and encouraging team. Yes, it had been hard but it had also been great fun.

My thanks to all those involved with The Herts Stroller, an excellent event, but extra special thanks to my seven special dwarfs'....Simon Kirbyshire, Ian Franks, Gordon Shaughnessy, Betty Sherry, Chris Bent, Dave Yorston and Martin Lawson....in my eyes, your stature has certainly grown.

Dee Brockway

Thursday 9th Sept. Walk to Gravenhurst Walk Leader: Colin Scargill.

This walk, starting in the village of Wilstead just south of Bedford, had been advertised in the Bedford Walking Festival programme so there were five 'guests' alongside new LDWA member David Stewart on his first BBN walk. With twelve of the regular Thursday walkers, this gave a grand total of 19. As one of the guests was arriving on the 9:36 bus, Veronica Scargill took the early leading duties, while Colin waited behind. They soon joined us by taking a slightly different, shorter route.

We were soon walking through Haynes, which has featured on a couple of other walks recently. No lunch stop here this time, but on to take a tea break by Rowney Warren Wood; then on past Chicksands and through Campton plantation, with some delightful recent wood carvings.

After going through Campton, we passed Meppershall airfield where a Gypsy Moth biplane was being refuelled from a jerry can. Lunch was taken by a stream near Upper Gravenhurst where John Nickerson said goodbye as he had a date geocaching in the afternoon.

After lunch we passed the remains of the eleventh century Cainhoe Motte and Bailey castle. Picking up the Greensand Ridge Walk at the now infamous remains of St Marys church (there are apparently plans to turn this into a bothy for walkers) we continued alongside Chicksands Wood and back to Haynes. A different return to Wilstead from the outward journey gave us splendid views from Firtree hill of the large airship hangers at Cardington and of Bedford and beyond.

Once back at Wilstead, it was thanks to Colin for once again for giving us our money's-worth with, what turned out to be, more like 18 than the 16 miles advertised.

IN THE LAKES AGAIN

For the 3rd year in a row the BBN took to the hills of the Lake District on the August B/H. I travelled up on the Friday morning, infact I left Northampton at 3am and was in Ambleside by 9.30am and I stayed in the Ambleside yha for the duration of the weekend. A great place to stay, with a bar and great food.

Friday was a bright day, but Saturday turned out to be one of our worst days ever, with horizontal hail stones on the high tops, with Dave Findle Hawkins and Merriam Lancaster (10/4 rubber duck) leading us due to Judy going for her knee op just before the weekend, so John stayed behind to, we was in good hands, (that will cost you a beer dave), although the rain did not give up for most of the day, we did get some great views. Back at the car park soaking wet we all retired to our accommodation for hot showers and a beer. Some met up later on for a meal and a few beers.

Sunday was a much better day, the wind was strong but the weather was very bright and we had a great day on the fells.

Monday was another bright day with the sun shining for most of the day, but alas, at the end of the walk most made there way home, all 250mls or so, I myself stayed on for another night, and made my way back home on the Tuesday morning, and I'm glad to say with not much bother from the traffic.

All had a great time again this year, pity John and Judy were not there with us. We were definitely thinking about them on Saturday.

Stevecee

BBN Membership Form – revised.

In May this year in an effort to save paper (and envelopes) and reduce costs Merriam Lancaster offered to take over the distribution of the newsletter by email and by post.. She asked those members on the BBN email distribution list if they wished to receive the newsletter by email or post

The membership form has been revamped with an extra line added asking members by which method they wish to receive the newsletter and is enclosed in this issue.

To ensure our records are up to date a revised membership form will be issued with this newsletter for the 2010-2011 subscriptions and also be available at the AGM.

Please complete the form enclosed and return to John Nickerson whose address is on the form

There is no intention to do away with a hard copy (paper) of the newsletter to an electronic only version. This will be an option only. We will only email members who sign up to this on the membership form.

Norman Corrin

**Castlebar International 4 Days Walks, County Mayo, Eire, Thursday 30th
June to Sunday 3rd July 2011**

This years' trip abroad will be a trip to the Castlebar International 4 days Walks in Castlebar, County Mayo, Eire from Thursday 30th June to Sunday 3rd July 2011.

Steve Clark did this event back in 2008 and I did it in 2009 and the craic was awesome!

For those of us who've done an international event before this is part of the International Marching League calendar of events which encourages mass participation events at varying distances.

For those of us who haven't then this is an ideal opportunity to get a flavour of how relaxed and enjoyable and carnival like the big events can be abroad. I've done several of the big walks but there is something deliciously chaotic and friendly about the Castlebar 4 days

As with the other IML events there are several distances available such as 20 or 40 km road walks. However unique to Castlebar are the 30 km rambles which are led walks over the delightful Irish countryside. The last couple of years there have been several thousand participants.

There are several accommodation options available such as a hotel, guesthouse, B&B, self-catering, or for those of us on a budget but is keen to take part camping or sports halls.

The itinerary is for us to travel over on Wednesday 29th June from Luton Airport to Knock International Airport and return Monday 04th July. From Knock we'll be taken by taxi to Castlebar and by the same method for the return journey. For this we'll have to pay. With sufficient numbers the journey comes to about £10 each way

I've attached the link to the Castlebar walks website: <http://www.castlebar4dayswalks.com/>

The link to the International Marching League for information on other overseas events is <http://www.imlwalking.org/>

The construction of Knock International Airport is a tale in itself and I've attached a link to the Irish World newspaper article about the construction of it

http://www.theirishworld.com/article.asp?SubSection_Id=2&Article_Id=1463

If anyone is interested can they please contact me by my email address or telephone number 01908 608667

Regards
Norman

Chiltern Kanter 2011

The date for The Chiltern Kanter in 2011 is Sunday 27th February with the marshals walk being the previous Saturday 19th February. The event is normally held on the 1st weekend in March but because the organiser wants to go to the LDWA national AGM the following weekend that's why the date has been changed!

The event will start from the Tring British Red Cross Hall as per the last 4 times but instead of going up to the Dunstable Downs and the Tree Cathedral it will go up to the Bridgewater Monument near Ashridge College and as usual to Ivinghoe Beacon.

There will be a choice of 3 distances 26, 18 or 13 miles starting at 8 a.m. and all to finish by 6 p.m.

It will also give many of our members who've not been out that way since the last event in 2009 the opportunity to visit the BBN memorial bench in honour of our 2 founder members Chris Meredith OBE and Chris Goodman. The bench is located outside the Ivinghoe Village Centre

As with all events many hands make light work. If you've not marshalled on an event before then why not try it it's great fun being the other side of the desk. The only disadvantage is the amount of food you have to eat at checkpoints!

If anyone is interested in marshalling on the day then please contact me.

Norman Corrin

Brian's w/e in the lakes

Your accommodation Langdale Camp Site. I could walk to the start of the weekend walks and had three pubs within a kilometre's stroll.

The beer - ordering "two blondes" in the Queens Head: Scafell Blonde and Hawkshead Westmorland Pale

Your journey home - was via Blackwell House, south of Bowness on Windermere; "on crossing this threshold we pass into a charmed territory where everything shall be in harmony"

Well worth a visit

What the best bit was Sunset over the Langdales on Friday night;

What the worst bit was - AND what did get Saturday.....low cloud, heavy rain and nearly being blown off Crinkle Crag

AND water getting in the end of my tent when I was pitched slightly uphill!

The Housman 100 Saturday 23rd May - Monday 25th May 2011 BBN Checkpoint

Well it's that time again when we start asking for helpers for the BBN Checkpoint on the LDWA 100 this time being held in those blue remembered hills of Shropshire over the 2nd May Bank Holiday from Saturday 28th May to Monday 30th May 2011.

As with the Wessex 100 we're on our own as a group and are manning CP 1 which is an open air tented checkpoint the details of which are shown below.

Location: School Wood

Distance: 9 miles

Grid Reference SO 481768 .

Open 1130.

Closes 1530

With its' location this is going to be a very short but very sharp experience! To make the job easy we need about 20 people to man the checkpoint. Once our stint is over any of our group members will be able to follow friends and/or family around the course and support them. An encouraging word or the sight of a friendly face at a checkpoint or halfway between can make all the difference.

For anyone who is new to the group and the LDWA this is a chance to experience the unique atmosphere of the LDWA's Flagship Event. Who know you might even be tempted to take part!

If anyone is interested please contact me

Norman Corrin

BBN Committee 2010/2011

As with any committee there must always be an influx of new members to provide an input of fresh ideas.

If anyone is interested in standing for the committee and helping to run our group then please email me at

Norman.Corrin@btinternet.com or phone me on my home telephone number on 01908 608667 and I'll be pleased to tell you what's involved

Norman Corrin

100 Matters

As you all know the LDWA 100 in 2012 has an Olympic Theme starting near the Olympic Stadium and finishing near Eaton Dorney rowing centre.

It will pass through areas that are of significance to do with the Olympic Games, national history, (Biggin Hill, The Long Walk leading up to Windsor Castle) and last but not least the LDWA (the Post Office at Peaslake where Alan Blatchford placed a post card in the window asking for anyone who was interested in long distance walking).

BBN is quite heavily involved in the organisation of this flagship event and as such for both the marshals walk and the main event will need a lot of help from its members.

To repeat what our national chairman Paul Lawrence said at the BBN AGM last year this is a once in a lifetime opportunity. The Olympic Games will not come to London again in our era

If you feel you can help in any way (particularly first aiders) then please contact Nigel Schofield, Dave & Lynn Yorston or lastly me!

2011 Housman 100

As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter next years LDWA 100 is held in Shropshire in those blue remembered hills

Something I forgot to mention was that I've had a request from the organisers asking if any of our helpers would be interested in helping minister to the returning walkers at the Event Centre on the Sunday/Monday?

In addition they are trying to compile a list of first aiders. If there are any first aiders in the group who could assist or could help at the event centre please let me know and I'll forward your details on.

Norman Corrin

Thursday 23rd Sept. By Canal and Roade Walk Leader: Roger Storey

After a few days of unseasonable hot weather, the forecast for the day was indifferent. This may have led to the absence of a few of the regular Thursday crowd. This was useful as the starting car park near the tunnel end in Blisworth was small, as advertised, and we managed to fill it. The twelve who joined Roger included Daniel Jamin, out for his first, but hopefully not his last, Thursday walk.

The group were soon heading South on the Midshires Way and it wasn't long before the weather began to deteriorate. A heavy shower meant an early morning break under the shelter of a dismantled railway bridge.

It was then through Shutlanger and on to Stoke Bruerne as the sun started to appear. Not only the sun but Judy also appeared for the lunch stop; Stoke Bruerne being a perfect staging post with both a café and choice of pubs alongside the canal.

The afternoon saw us going to Ashton then briefly rejoining the Midshires Way before the afternoon stop south of Courtenhall. Here it suddenly became apparent we had lost some of the group. Roger went back and found they had taken a footpath none of the rest of us had seen, just a few hundred yards back. A timely reminder to us all to make sure we can see the person behind at all times.

The last section saw us crossing the A508 and railway north of Roade before heading across the fields and returning to Blisworth.

Local Groups Representatives Meeting 12/14 November 2010

Location – Conwy YHA - <http://www.yha.org.uk/find-accommodation/wales/hostels/Conwy/index.aspx>

This years Local Group Representatives meeting is being held on the same day as the final Steppingley Step which is why our Local Group Rep Nigel Schofield will not be attending.

This is a chance for members to raise any points about the organisation of the LDWA. One of the improvements raised by Nigel at a meeting he attended was that any points raised at this meeting are then discussed at the following national committee meeting in January.

If anyone wishes to attend on behalf of BBN and requires more information about the format of the weekend please contact Nigel. His details are below

*Nigel Schofield 21 Maylin Close, Hitchin, Herts. SG4 0NQ
(T) working hours 8.45am – 5.15pm 01462 474590 direct line
(H) 01462 442338 (E) nicelegs.schofield@btinternet.com / nigel.schofield@north-herts.gov.uk*

Norman Corrin

Thu 7th October Franks 1st^s for BBN
Leaders: Roger Storey/DFH

This should have been the first Thursday walk that Frank Riley led, but injury meant substitutes had to be found. Both Roger Storey and I walked out the route Frank had planned the week before, so we acted as joint leaders on the day.

Although it wasn't to be Franks first it did turn out to be the first Thursday walk for Pat and Ian Sage. As Ian is no longer working a full week we're looking forward to seeing them both on a lot more.

On a bright sunny morning, a group of fourteen was soon heading towards the morning tea break at Salcey Forest. Roger had us avoiding some of the Frank's chosen ploughed fields by being creative with the route. We arrived at the café just after 11:00 to meet the newly reinstated driver, Judy, who had been doing a walk of her own.

The next section of the walk was out of the forest, along a bit of the B526 and onto a footpath that no one could remember using before. The joint leaders had both had difficulty finding the true line of this on their walkouts and once again it wasn't clear if we had followed the exact line of it.

More creativity with the route meant a lunch stop in Stoke Goldington where once again Judy joined the group for lunch on the green while some made use of the local pub.

Afternoon saw us going through Tathall End and onto Little Linford Wood for afternoon tea, before returning to Hanslope, once again avoiding the ploughed fields Frank had planned for us. No doubt, when fit again, Frank will take us round the proper route.

A Newcomer's View of

BBN Lake District Weekend

I have spent at least a week each year, for the past 30 years, visiting relatives in the Lake District. For all that time I've longed to climb to the peaks, but I've never had the confidence to do it alone, and have failed to persuade any of my family. So when my friend Terry suggested I join a BBN walking weekend to do just that, I jumped at the chance.

Friday dawned windy and showery. Would we still go, or would we have to do a low level walk instead? I arrived at the start nervous and excited. Would I be fit enough to keep up? I'd heard that some of these people did 100 mile walks, some *ran* 25 miles! However, at the start they seemed friendly and didn't look too scary, and more importantly the walk up Pike of Blisco and Crinkle Crag was ON!

Dave FH led us up the first rise at a steady pace, and everyone was chatting and making me feel welcome. Merrian patiently brought up the rear. I soon found that I was more comfortable tackling the steep bits quite quickly, then having a long rest to get my breath back. It was hot climbing up in full waterproofs, but the frequent heavy showers made it necessary. Suddenly there was a break in the cloud, and there was an amazing, brightly lit glimpse of the valley below, like window on a different world, complete with arching rainbow. The clouds closed in again, but I'd had my 'fix', I was on a high that would last all weekend.

Crinkle Crag looked steep and rocky but the enthusiasm and positive outlook of the group reassured me that I could do it. As we climbed the weather deteriorated, rain had now turned to sleet and was driven in our faces to make our cheeks sting and eyes water. Hoods up, and waterproofs flapping in the wind meant chatting was now impossible. I kept my head down and followed the boots in front of me. Up rocky gullies, across scree slopes... all I focussed on was the boots in front, and that there was someone behind. At one point it suddenly occurred to me that I didn't know whom I was following; it could have been anyone. But at the top, I was relieved to find I was still with the group. I felt on top of the world, more alive than I can remember for ages, and so elated that I had conquered the summit. OK, it was only 859m, but to me it could have been Everest. Again, a brief but breath-taking glimpse of a rain washed valley below. We were right on the edge of a massive drop and I felt giddy with excitement as well as the height. It was cold and lashing with rain again, but I was smiling from ear to ear. Lunch with a view was out of the question. Instead it was a hurried and soggy affair, snatched in the shelter of some rocks. The group were quieter now, some were feeling cold, I had wet feet, but nobody moaned.

As we descended, we approached the point where I hoped we would be able to take a detour up Bow Fell. However, the cloud was still down and Dave wisely decided we should continue down. Soon after we passed the branch point the clouds lifted, the sun came out and I wished we could go back to tackle another peak. Never mind, Bow Fell will be there to tempt me another day.

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION

AIM: - TO FURTHER THE INTERESTS OF THOSE WHO ENJOY LONG DISTANCE WALKING

Day two was wonderful, all the elation and sense of achievement of day one, but this time combined with fantastic clear views. The climb up past Stickle Tarn to Pavey Ark was tricky as the river was full from rain the night before, but Dave had done his homework and led us faultlessly. We extended the walk to High Raise, which although unimpressive as an elevation, did afford a wonderful panorama of the whole Lake District. It made me realise how small the area really is; when winding around the lanes by car or bike, one gets the impression it is much bigger than in reality. All the Langdales were impressive, but perhaps the most memorable was Pike of Stickle. I climbed the rock scramble wishing I'd left my rucksack at the bottom, but once I arrived on the windblown top I was glad of the ballast to stop me being blown away. What a view!

The meal on Sunday evening was a delightful social occasion and an opportunity to get to know people better. The waiter also let slip that, on the list of participators, my name alone had an *. Dave explained that, when offering to lead the walk, he had been concerned that, not only was I not a member of BBN, I wasn't even a member of LDWA. How glad I was that I had been blissfully unaware of my cautionary label.

Day three was calm, sunny and warm. A perfect day for scaling the heights, but an easy low-level walk had been planned up Loughrigg Fell and around Grasmere. I felt so much fitter and stronger than at the start of the weekend. The hill just seemed to slide beneath our feet and give us plenty of time to enjoy the scenery. All too soon it was time to say goodbye to these wonderful people who had welcomed me to their group, encouraged me to tackle things I had only dreamed of before, and shared with me a passion for walking in this rugged and beautiful part of the country.

Terry and I had time to spare, we were not returning home until next morning. We treated ourselves to tea and cake while we pondered on how to spend the afternoon. 'I don't want to climb any more big hills today.' was Terry's only stipulation (her knee was hurting). Somehow, within an hour we were climbing Coniston Old Man.

I would like to thank everyone who went on the BBN Lakes Weekend for giving me the chance to become addicted to fell walking, and for all their kind words of support and encouragement. I am particularly indebted to Dave and Merrian who selflessly shouldered the responsibility of getting me safely up and down the hills, and who smiled throughout. Not forgetting Judy, whom I never met, but who organised the trip. I am now a member of LDWA and hope to meet many of you again at future events, either with or without my *.

Anne Brown *

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TO BE HELD ON
SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2010 AT 2 P.M.
AT THE STAR & GARTER PH, SILSOE**

Continuing our tradition of moving the AGM around our three counties each year, this year's AGM will be held at the Star & Garter PH at Silsoe. Dee will lead a short morning walk and then back to the pub for lunch followed by the AGM.

BBN has a wealth of lovely pro-active members always willing to lead walks, marshal on events and to organise challenge and social events. All committee members have indicated that they are willing to stand again for 2011 so you can come along to the meeting without fear of being cajoled or pressurised into taking on a job BUT if you are interested in joining the committee or have a suggestion for a new challenge walk, a weekend away or a social event please do come along and share your ideas. BBN is built on strong foundations and has some "must do" established walks and social events which happily appear each year on our calendar but we must also evolve and look to the future. New ideas are always welcome. Are we doing what you want?

Back to the lunch – this needs to be ordered in advance and the menu appears on the following page.

Please book your meal via:

- (e) gillbunker@googlemail.com
 - (h) 1 Abbey Way, Bradville, Milton Keynes, MK13 7AN
 - (t) 01908-321308
- or at the Steppingley Step

Please let me have your menu choice by 21st November so we can give the landlord plenty of notice. Should you need to cancel your booking after this date, please also let me know otherwise the meal will have to be paid for.

Thank you.

Gill Bunker

**MENU FOR THE AGM MEAL
SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2010
THE STAR & GARTER PH, SILSOE**

SUNDAY LUNCH MENU

TWO COURSES £10.00

Homemade Vegetable Soup
Served with crusty bread

Prawn Cocktail
With mixed leaves and brown bread

Duck Liver Pate
Served with toasted bread

Garlic Mushrooms
Served on toasted bread

Roast Topside of Beef with Yorkshire Pudding
Roast potatoes, and fresh vegetables

Roast Leg of English Pork
Roast potatoes and fresh vegetables

Lambs Liver and Bacon
Served with onion gravy and mash potato

Vegetable Lasagne
Made in a traditional way with fresh vegetables
Served with garlic bread

Fillet of Cod
Served with a butter sauce with new potatoes
And vegetables

BBN Social Walks Programme Dec 2010 to April 2011

Thurs 2 Dec 9.30 start	<p>Ronde van Groot Linford 15 miles Start at The Nags Head p.h. Great Linford, Milton Keynes. Park in nearby streets. Landranger 152 Explorer 192 SP 852 422 Ldr: Adrian Moody Tel 01296 395146</p>
Sun 5 th Dec	<p>Arms and Legs 17 miles Start at main c.p. in High St, Tring. Via Wendover Woods and canals. Explorer 181 Landranger 165 SP926 115 Ldr: Peter Simon Tel 01582 513827</p>
Sun 12 Dec	<p>Mistletoe at Missenden 15 miles Start at Great Missenden c.p. Train station nearby. BBNs' infamous Xmas walk with carol singing en route and refreshments after. As always, Santa will lead the proceedings. Please bring a wrapped gift to the value of £1. Explorer 181 Landranger 165 SP 895 015 Ldr: Norman Corrin Tel 01908 608667 Mob on day 07980 378656</p>
Thurs 16 Dec 9.30 start	<p>The GHFL Walk 15 miles Start in Padbury village (SE of Buckingham). Landranger 152 SP 718 305 Ldr: David Findel-Hawkins Tel 01908 642803</p>
Thurs 13 Jan 9.30 start	<p>A Review of the Great Train Robbery 15 miles Start at Ivinghoe Church. Landranger 165 SP 945 162 Ldrs John and Judy Tel 01234 365595 or 01908 678006 Mob on day 07761 257743</p>
Sun 16 Jan	<p>Remembering the SOE's 16 miles Start at Sandy public c.p. opposite church on B1042 towards Potton. Landranger 153 TL 175 492 Ldr: Therese Jamin Tel 07779 227675</p>
Thurs 27 Jan 9.30 start	<p>The Northamptonshire Round Part 1 15 miles Start/park on Forest Road, near The Spread Eagle pub, in Piddington. Landranger 152 SP 804 543 Ldr: David Findel-Hawkins Tel 01908 642803</p>
Sun 30 Jan	<p>Sundon Saunter 20 miles Start at Village Hall, Church End, Evershot, 200m NW of church. Park quietly in overspill car park through gate. Explorer 192/193 SP 982 326 Ldr: David Sedgley Tel 01525 714961</p>

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION

AIM: - TO FURTHER THE INTERESTS OF THOSE WHO ENJOY LONG DISTANCE WALKING

	Mob on day 07967 899661
Sun 6 Feb	<p>A Walk from Ashridge 20 miles Start from café c.p. near Bridgewater Monument in Ashridge Park. Landranger 165 SP 972 130 Leader John Davies Tel 01442 874875 Mob on day 07949 796470</p>
Thurs 10 Feb 9.30 start	<p>The Great St Albans Steeple Chase 15 miles Start/park from The Compasses pub c.p. Greenfield Village. Landranger 153 TL 052 348 Ldr: David Sedgley Tel 01525 714961 Mob on day 07967 899661</p>
Sun 13 Feb	<p>Bison, Beeches and Boats 20 miles Start at Bison Hill c.p. on B4540 near Whipsnade. Landranger 165/166 SP 999 184 Ldr: Alan Hall Tel 07730 051634</p>
Sat 19 Feb	The Chiltern Kanter Marshalls walk
Thurs 24 Feb 9.30 start	<p>Parts that Other Walks Haven't Reached 15 miles Start at Storton Gravel Pits off A45 Upton Way, Northampton, south of mini roundabout off Walter Tull Way near Northampton Town Football club. Landranger 152 SP 730 596 Ldr: Roger Story Tel 01604 751576</p>
Sun 27 Feb	BBN Challenge Walk THE CHILTERN KANTER
Sun 6 March	<p>The Creaton Crawl 19 miles Start from Creaton church. No pub stop at lunch time. Explorer 223 SP 705 718 Ldr: Andrew Gilbertson Tel (inc on day) 07922 068591</p>
Thurs 10 March 9.30 start	<p>The Pegsdon Hills Walk 16 miles Start and park in Hexton Village near The Raven pub. Landranger 166 TL 106 306 Ldr: Brian Harwood Tel 01234 267654</p>
Sun 13 March	<p>Buckland Bash 19 miles Start at Heath Sports Centre, off Baldock Rd, Royston. Free car park, café and toilets. Picnic lunch near pub. Joint walk with Essex & Herts. A shorter walk of 10-12 miles will be possible. Please contact leader in advance for details. Landranger 154 TL 348 405 Ldr: Phil Hastings Tel 01763 853744 before 9pm please Mob on day ONLY 07716 992847</p>

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION

AIM: - TO FURTHER THE INTERESTS OF THOSE WHO ENJOY LONG DISTANCE WALKING

Sun 20 March	<p>The Handy Bandy Randy Dandy Ghandi SANDY Walk 18 miles Start at c.p. by Ghandi Restaurant in Sandy. If barrier down park in local streets. Explorer 208 TL 166 492 Leader Steve Smith Tel 01767 220307 Mob on Day 07817 041621</p>
Thurs 24 March 9.30 start	<p>To the Globe and Back 14 miles Start at Manor Fields, Bletchley, off Watling Street by MK Irish club, entrance opp Dobbies Garden Centre. Landranger 152 SP 885 337 Ldr: Brian Graves Tel 01908 631013</p>
Sun 3 April	<p>North of Dunstable Villages Tour 16 miles Start at Bowling Alley free c.p., Court Drive, Dunstable. No dogs please. Explorer 192/193 Landranger 165/166 TL 019 224 Leader Ian Sage Tel 01582 661256 Mob 07815 833295</p>
Thurs 7 April 9.30 start	<p>The Hexton Hike 15 miles Start/park in Hexton village near jnct signposted to Higham Gobian. Landranger 166 TL 107 308 Ldr: Gordon Shaughnessy Tel 01582 518791 Mob on day 07518 364036</p>
Sun 17 April	<p>An Architect, an Assassin, an Angel and a Devil 7 miles Start at Shipton Bridge layby on A413 half a mile SE of Winslow. Pub at lunch stop if required. Explorer 192 SP 776 268 Ldr: Michael Mooney Tel 07704 310167</p>
Thurs 21 April 9.30 start	<p>Another Wander Around Milton Keynes 15 miles Start at c.p. off Overgate (V9) in Milton Keynes. Landranger 152 SP 868 399 Ldr: Jim Morrison Tel 01908 665300</p>

All walks are circular and start at 9am unless specified. Thursday walks start at 9.30 and tend to be a bit shorter, aprox 15miles.