**LDWA South Manchester Chairman’s report 2016**

2016 was another successful year for the group in many ways. Highlights were organising the walks for the National AGM in Buxton, Easter Weekend in Northern Ireland, Dorset 100 Marshal’s Breakfast, 5 Completions of the Dorset 100, and running the second successful Goyt Valley Challenge. In addition the social walks programme included 17 social walks and 3 social gatherings. It was heartening that several new leaders offered walks for the programme. However, having celebrated many milestone birthdays the previous year, several of our stalwart leaders suffered health problems and some needed surgical interventions. This took a toll on numbers on some walks but we were pleased to be joined by several new members and on most occasions were supported by members from neighbouring groups. Several members once again joined walks of neighbouring groups, lead Bollington Walking Festival, completed LDP’s, including Southern Uplands Way and Cotswolds Way, further Munro’s, Corbett’s, and a completion of English / Welsh HEWITTS (hills over 2000ft). Others had walked in Patagonia and Central Asia as well as, completing Tour de Mont Blanc and Annapurna Circuit.

David Allen

Chairman

Nov 2016

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