



LDWA

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION

furthering the interests of those who enjoy long distance walking
www.ldwa.org.uk

LDWA Chair's Newsletter: March 2020

Welcome to the March 2020 LDWA Chair's Newsletter.
It is with considerable pleasure that I can report that Alan Warrington has decided to continue in the role as the 100 coordinator for the next year. Alan has been recuperating following a very serious illness and has decided that he will remain in post until March 2021 when he will then vacate the position. Welcome back Alan and 'Good Luck' with the role this year!!

The AGM for the LDWA was held last week and I'm grateful to Sue Widdowson and Deirdre Flegg for the work that they did on behalf of everyone who attended.
There were three workshops on the Friday; one in relation to how LDWA members can help with illegal raptor persecution, one in relation to Project 50 and a third on current NEC issues.

Colin Utting (Dorset LDWA) gave a very interesting talk on Saturday evening in relation to the process of managing personal change in the switch from nuclear engineering to mountain leadership and mentoring young people.

At the July 2019 meeting between the Directors of The Ramblers and LDWA a decision was taken to attend each other's AGM weekends. The Ramblers representative at the AGM weekend was Richard May who is a Ramblers trustee. I will be representing the LDWA at the Ramblers AGM in April.

Happy 'Long Distance' Walking!
David Morgan
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LDWA Response to the Coronavirus Pandemic

Last week, the NEC published a statement in relation to how the LDWA will respond to the coronavirus pandemic. The statement can be read on the '[Home Page](#)' of the LDWA website.

At the AGM today, I advised the delegates that I have created a NEC sub-committee that will meet via tele-conference whenever there is a change to Her Majesty's Government advice, and then consider what action the LDWA will take. In the meantime, guidance for local groups is being produced that will focus on what control measures might be taken in relation to food hygiene and cross contamination on challenge events. This guidance will be emailed to the 43 local groups this week. In the meantime, some local groups have decided to cancel / postpone their challenge events and the NEC will make a decision in relation to Y 100 Sir Fynwy in line with the developing Government advice and in consultation with the hard working Y 100 Sir Fynwy committee.

On 28.02.20, the LDWA was a co-signatory on a letter sent by The Ramblers to the Home Secretary in relation to Government consultation on the new trespass laws. The current proposals would see the offence of deliberate trespass become a criminal offence and the potential impact for LDWA members could be significant. In total, there were 17 co-signatories to the letter that was also sent to the Sunday Times in order to harness greater publicity. The letter can be viewed at:



The Hundred

Alan Warrington would love to hear from local groups who would be interested in hosting the 2024 100 mile walk. We have had one group express an interest and Alan would like to know if there are other groups who are considering applying to showcase their area. Please [email](#) Alan to let him know if your group is interested.



IT Fund

I have good news to report on in relation to the IT Fund. Two groups have donated money from their respective surpluses.

London LDWA group decided at their AGM to donate approximately 50% (£2500) of their surplus which I think you'll agree is a significant percentage. The £2500 has been added to the fund with grateful

thanks. I am also pleased to report that in the last week in February I learned that Kent LDWA decided to donate £2500 from their surplus to the IT Fund. I am sure that you, like me, are grateful for the generosity of both groups. Bed Bucks & Northants LDWA has been applying the challenge walk levy for some months already and have already donated £1000 to the IT Fund and so with the two recent donations, the levies applied by BBN and Lakeland, I can report that it's been a great start to the fund raising process. Twenty-three local groups are now supporting the NEC's request for assistance to raise funds for the IT Fund and the latest groups to support the challenge walk levy are Bristol & West, Cornwall & Devon, Essex & Herts, Heart of England, Norfolk & Suffolk, Sherwood, East Lancashire & The Irregulars.