



Activity



Issue 103
Winter 2014

Trev MASTers Voice.

By the time this edition of Activity reaches us all three Areas will have completed our meets for this year; and by all accounts it's been a pretty good year all round. Doubtless some of us will still be hardy enough to continue camping in the months to come and probably even more will be pulling on our boots and/or getting on our bikes to continue exploring the joys of our countryside.

Before looking forward to next year I'd like to go back to early July of this year; to a memorable trip we made to what I'm told is called God's Own Country – Yorkshire. Knowing next year's Festival will be at Pateley Bridge we thought we'd explore it early. And are so glad we did. Much of our final drive was along roads decked with yellow bikes and other bright, celebratory bunting. We had known we would be arriving after Le Tour had completed its northern stages but were delighted to see Yorkshire was in no hurry to end its celebrations. And to relish the wonderful scenery!

With such a warm response to the world's greatest cycle ride it is sad that so few of us in Britain ever use a bike. A recent survey shows that we are languishing in 25th place out of 29 European countries for bike use. Only 4% of us cycle every day – compared with 43% of the Dutch!

But back to Pateley Bridge; which is where we look forward to being next year. Beautiful countryside awaits us all in those rolling hills as I am sure will a warm Northern welcome with plenty of planned walks and ideas of trips for those with bikes.

Meanwhile, enjoy your winter activities – walking, cycling, or both – and see you all in Yorkshire.

Trev.



Cover Picture: Activity is the name of the game. Growing old is compulsory – growing up is not!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Colin Wild, our Section Secretary, has given notice that he will not be standing for re-election at the next AGM 2 May 2015 at Pateley Bridge. We are therefore looking for someone to offer to take on this important role.

Colin has undertaken this task with enthusiasm and considerable organisational skill – for which we are grateful – and will be leaving the post in good order for his successor.

The post involves most of the traditional secretarial duties – handling communications, preparing agendas for the AGM and 3 meetings of the Section Council and attending those meetings. It does not involve taking minutes of those meetings as we have a separate minutes secretary.

**Further information can be obtained from
Trev Masters, Chairman – [REDACTED]**

Or from

Les Morton, Vice Chairman – [REDACTED]

Mountain Activity Section

We welcome all members who have an interest in walking, cycling and camping. We aim to organise walks and cycle rides in beautiful countryside suitable for a range of ages and abilities.

Further details may be found on our website,

www.mountainactivitysection.org.uk,

or contact Secretary Colin Wild on 07788706049
or the membership Sec. Barry Cowlard on 07770287434.

Secretary's Scribbles

This will probably be my last contribution to Activity as Section Secretary since I have decided to stand down from the post at next year's AGM. Apart from a few problems at the start of my period of office I have enjoyed working with the Section Council and seeing the Section move forward to meet the needs of our members.

Over the last few years there have been some important developments. The Section's finances have been put on a firm basis so that we no longer have to worry about our ability to meet our financial obligations. This has been largely due to rationalising the production of Activity. The number of issues was reduced from 4 to 3 a year with two of these being delivered via the Internet rather than having to pay for expensive printing and postage.

In turn this allowed the Council to take the decision to distribute some of the money received through members' subscriptions back to the Area committees so that they too can be more financially secure.

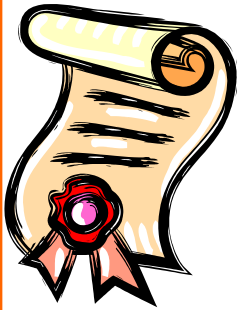
Following member's suggestions the Festival of Walking has been reintroduced and from 2016 this will become the Festival of Walking and Cycling to reflect the growing interest in cycling in the country.

Publicity for the Section has always been important and due largely to the efforts of our Chairman, Trev Masters, we have forged a strong link with the editors of the Club's magazine. We now get regular mention of the MAS in here and there will be a further article highlighting our work in the January edition.

There are, of course, still pressing issues which need to be addressed. Not least of these is our dwindling and aging membership! We must be aware that we are competing in a rapidly changing leisure market and be prepared to change to meet these new demands. We can no longer live on past glories and be content to do things just because we have always done them that way. Even though the MAS has a long and proud history with many traditions we need to be aware of what people today want from their camping, walking and cycling. If we don't address these issues we are likely to become like the dinosaurs; remembered, talked about but extinct!

Finally may I thank all the members of the Section Council, the Area Secretaries and the many staff at Greenfields House who have put up with me for the last 6 years and who have helped to make the job easier.
Colin Wild, Hon. Sec.

Prestigious Award to MAS stalwart



I am delighted to announce that Terry Bishop, Vice President of the Mountain Activity Section, has been awarded the Camping and Caravanning Club's Certificate of Honour.

This award exists to recognise and celebrate outstanding contributions to the Club.

I'm sure you will all wish to join me in extending our congratulations to Terry. The award is well deserved and, of course, provides further positive coverage for our Section.

Trev Masters
Chairman, MAS



*Middle age is when
you still believe
you're gonna feel
better in the morning!*



Mountain Activity Section Officers 2014/15

Chairperson MAS Executive Member (2017)	Trevor Masters (07786617910) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Vice Chairperson MAS Executive Member (2017)	Les Morton (07967900225) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
President	Andrew Wood (07881788900) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Vice Presidents	Carole Booth (07788197649) Email: [REDACTED] Christine Stevenson Email: [REDACTED] Terry Bishop Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Secretary MAS Executive Member (2015)	Colin Wild (07948560571) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Immediate Past Chairman MAS Executive Member (2015)	Diane Goodyear (07761949896) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Treasurer MAS Executive Member	Jenny Williams (07984003348) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
PRO/Website Co-ordinator Elected Member (2016)	John Gerner (077348852656) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Membership Secretary Elected Member (2015)	Barry Cowlard (07770287434) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Section Youth Officers	Howard and Anne Crosland (07855707681) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Minutes Secretary	Ruth Brown (07774860968) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Regalia Officer	Sheila Newsome Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Newsletter Editor Elected Member (2016)	Toni Busuttill-Reynaud (07762326340) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Webmaster	Adrian Rose Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Other elected Members to Section Council	Sandra Wild (07765016672) Email: [REDACTED] Yvonne Plevey Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Advisory Officer to National Council	Howard Crosland	
Deputy Advisory Officer	Diane Goodyear	
<u>Representatives to Section Council Northern Area</u>	Lesley Storey (07552716556) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Peakland Area	Sandra Wain (07503000568) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Wessex Area	Deb Masters (07765040211) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
<u>Area Secretaries Northern Area</u>	Carole Booth 07788197649) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Peakland Area	Les Morton (07967900225) Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Wessex Area	Viv Stevens Email: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
National Council Rep. to MAS	Steve Harris Email: [REDACTED]	



Aren't you a bit young to be out without Mum?



The only place of safety in the area? (look at the notice!)

Northern meet at Chipping End of June

We have not visited this area before and were disappointed that only 7 vans (maximum only on 2 days) were present. The show field had lots of space, superb views, electricity, flush toilets and a village 10 minutes walk away across the fields; together with lovely weather this provided a perfect weekend.

As newbies to the area we wouldn't have known what far reaching views could be seen from these small accessible fells. On Saturday five of us spotted Blackpool Tower from Longridge Fell. However, Sunday was the piece de resistance; from Parleck we had 360 degree views from the North Wales coast via the Fylde coast past the Isle of Man to the Furness Peninsula and the South Lakes fells. Turning inland Ingleborough, Pendle and the Pennines were visible. It was unfortunate that only 6 of us and a dog enjoyed this.

Also within easy reach was Clitheroe and we spent a pleasant day exploring the town and finished at Edisford Bridge watching the mini steam railway by the Club site. On the last day we had another attractive walk in the area and finished with delicious local ice cream in the village.

The stewards Margaret and John went above and beyond by leading all 3 walks and our thanks to them for making it a great visit.

Thanks

Pat Wilson



YOUNG AT HEART
Slightly older
in other places.

Peakland snippets



Vice Chairman at Crickhowell exploring the possibility of adding horse riding to our list of activities



Bog Monster? No; Peakland member finding midges challenging on Skye



10 folks starting the West Highland Way - spot the 6 MAS members

2015 FESTIVAL OF WALKING
PATELEY BRIDGE SHOWGROUND
PATELEY BRIDGE, NIDDERSDALE
30th April until 5th May



The Northern Area cordially invites you to travel to Nidderdale for the 2015 Festival of Walking and pitch your unit on the Showground at Pateley Bridge. It's a great opportunity to meet friends old and new, and besides being the MAS Premier event for walking and cycling, it's being held in an area of natural outstanding beauty.

We will have a full programme of organised walks of varying length and ability. Route cards of walks and cycle rides will also be available. A hall is booked for the Saturday night for the AGM with an American supper to follow, and Sunday evening we invite you to bring your drinks and nibbles and



Northern area will provide the entertainment.

The little Town of Pateley Bridge has much to offer visitors. It has the best pork pies around - try one and you will have to go back for more. There are fish and chip shops, cafes, restaurants and plenty of interesting gift shops. There are local supermarkets and shops selling delicious Yorkshire cakes and bread, so no need to stock up before you leave home.

If we have whet your appetite make a note of the dates in your 2015 diary and come and enjoy some good walking in beautiful Yorkshire countryside.



Donald McGill saucy seaside postcards



Wessex in the New Forest

Wessex had a meet at Bramshaw in the New Forest at the beginning of October. Stewards Jon and Anne excelled themselves by planning and leading a walk every one of the five days. The walks were all off site, and went through some really stunning scenery, varying from the grassy meadows, heather covered heathland and the wooded and semi wooded areas of the forest. 29 units were on site, and all the walks were well attended while some of the people chose to sit in the sun and chat all day—the weather was simply glorious for three of the days, even if there was a bit of rain on Saturday. Terry and Sandra were with us for a few days, Sandra's first outing since her stroke earlier in the year. The meeting was voted a great success, and we hope to return to that site at some time in the future.



Visiting the Rufus Stone on Sunday



Through a beech wood



Would someone like to give us a tune?

Kites and Kites

Wessex meets 2014

There have been many really enjoyable meets in Wessex Area this year; largely excellent weather, many fine walks – all now being stored for future use – and lots of enjoyable company.

In addition we have had an interesting bonus; lots and lots of kites. The word “kite” in our dictionary has 8 possible definitions so I hasten to explain that I’m not referring to a toy on a length of string, nor to a fraudulent cheque or an illicit or surreptitious letter! I’m alluding only to 2 of the definitions; a soaring bird of prey and, in the good old RAF slang, an aircraft.

Red kites, once so rare, are now plentiful in several areas and have been seen frequently; as indeed have, of course, buzzards. Less often seen and therefore particularly memorable were the occasional kestrel, peregrine falcon and owl.

But, equally frequent this year and much more obvious, have been the displays by aircraft. We were just south of the Thames on the 70th anniversary of D Day and were treated to a fine commemorative display based on a nearby airfield. (I was, however, outdone by Deb who, back at home saw the Red Arrows fly over our house!)

Our very next meet predictably involved many, many more kites – and at much closer quarters. We were actually camping on Compton Abbas Airfield! Unknown to us when booking the meet, however, there was to be an aerial competition for two of the days. For the record this is the only time to my knowledge that someone has arrived to join us for a meet not by car and caravan or motorhome, but by plane – complete with tent! It is also the only time we have held a committee meeting competing with the noise of aircraft taking off and landing literally within yards of us.

Two months later in north Hampshire we encountered yet another surprise event right next door to our site. The Carfest. As the name says, it’s mainly to do with cars but on two of the days there were yet more aerial displays – the highlights for many of us being the sight of the two last airworthy Lancaster bombers, accompanied by a Spitfire and a Hurricane. And then, as the sun began to descend against a wonderfully colourful sky, in flew the Red Arrows. The underside of their wings and fuselages as they climbed shone with red and silver brilliance. The sky, by the end of the display, could have been from a late Turner painting.

From then on it has been back to earth, but back to earth for MAS members still offers many wonders; woods now turning autumnal gold and rolling hills in which to walk and cycle. Long may it last!

Trev Masters

A Red Kite and a white kite (Tiger Moth)



Peakland Area Mountain Activity Section 2015 Meets List

Date	Venue	Map Ref	Duration	Stewards
March 13-15	Foufinside, Parwich (Pre-AGM meeting)	119/183 549	2 nights	Les/Jean 01298 213430 or 07967 900225
March 20-22	Mill Farm, Barlow (Peakland AGM)	119/336 756	2 nights	Frank/Carol 01142 510140 or 077388560832
April 2-7	Thorpe (Easter)	119/166 514	5 nights	xxx
April 17-19	Wyming Brook Farm, Redmires		2 nights	Sandra/Rogter
April 30- May 5	Pateley Bridge (Section AGM)		5 nights	Northern
May 5-9	Follow-on meet		5 nights	Northern
May 15-17	Edale (Invite from Sheffield DA)	110/118 854	2 nights	Sheffield DA
May 22-25	Darley Farm, Parsley Hay (Spring Bank)	119/143 636	3 nights	
June 5-7	Grenfields Farm, Alport (Wine and Cheese)	119/225 637	2 nights	Malcolm/Chris
June 18-23	4 Acres, Bamford (Invite to Northern)	119/196 827	5 nights	Robin/Elaine 07962107983
July 2-7	Forest View, Cannock (Invite to Wessex)	128/005 174	5 nights	
July 1 7-19	Packhorse, Alderwasley	119/321 523	2 nights	Yvonne/Colin 01629581049
Aug 27- Sept 1	Hexham (Invite from Northern)		5 nights	Northern Area
Sept 1-6	Stanhope, Weardale (Follow-on meet)		5 nights	Northern Area
Sept 11-14	Marsden Cricket Club	110/044 105	3 nights	Mick/Lyn
Sept 2 5-27	Winster Moor Farm, Winster	119/242 594	2 nights	
Oct 9-11	Leek Edge Farm, Leek	118/999 572	2 nights	Les/Jean
Oct 23-25	King Sterndale (End of Season meet)	119/093 720	2 nights	Rod/Margaret

Wessex MAS meets List 2015

We may have to change these sites. Please check in current month's Out and About or contact Sites Officers or Stewards at least 2 days before travelling.

Sites officers are Lindie and Michael Pink, 01865 872363 or 07811 883552

Booked days	Location	BSB and map refs	Stewards
March 19th - Mar 24th	Cheddar Mendip Heights Booked Meet C C Club site	182/ 523518	Pauline Porter 01779692806 07553100323
April 2nd - April 7th (Easter)	Breamore House, Fordingbridge SP6 2DF AGM + American supper Hulse Hall	184/152187 184/159180	Edward & Frances Delaine 01425617893 07547275261
April 16th – April 21st	Birchwood Tourist park, Cold Harbour, Wareham Dorset BH20 7PA	BSB 195/263 195/897906	Ray & Hazel Miles 01425627159 07785794212
April 30th - May 5th (Bank Holiday)	Festival of Walking and National AGM Pateley Bridge	99/ SE157655	See Out and About
May 5th - May 10th	Follow on Meet The Lido, Knaresborough	104/362560	See Northern Area Programme or Out & About
May 7th- May 12th	Little Metlands Farm. Lime Kiln Lane, Dean, Bishops Waltham. SO32 1FY	BSB 185/571195	Richard & Sheila Price 07808517647
May 21st - May 26th (Bank Holiday)	Longhills Farm Chipping Campden, Mickleton, Gloucs GL55 6PS	BSB 151/020 151/157427	Maurice & Deirdre Spratt 01430860572
June 4th- June 9th	Whitemark Farm, Watlington Oxon OX49 5AF	BSB 175/120 175/696938	Len & Julia Frampton 02086577659 07944869622
June 18th - June 23rd	Suddene Park Farm, Burbage, Wilts SN83DP	BSB174/048 174/241618	Sandra Ryan 01256323036 07944837386

Booked days	Location	BSB and map refs	Stewards
July 2nd - July 7th	Joint meet with Peakland Forest View, Kingsley Wood Road, Penkridge Bank, Rugeley, Staffs. WS15 2UF	BSB 128 74 128/003174	Peakland shared Meet
July 9th- July 14th	SW region meet		
July 16th-J uly 21st	Red barn Farm Aldstone, Tewkesbury, Gloucs GL20 8JD	BSB 150/137 150/985323	Derrick & Gill Masters 01531632599 07974770887
July 30th – Aug 4th	Brocklands Farm, West Meon, Hants GU32 1JN	BSB 185/60 185/639235	Toni & Annette B-Reynaud 01243370422 07762326340
Aug 13th – Aug 18th	Mount Farm, Batchelors Lane, Ratley, Banbury, Oxon OX15 6DT	151/383476	Rae Williams 01295267463 07773953434
Aug 27th – Sep 1st (Bank Holiday)	St Leonards Parish Hall, Tring HP23 6NW	165/914071	Viv & Terry Stevens 07926938450
Sep 10th- Sep15th	Upper Row Farm, Laverton, Nr Bath Somerset BA2 7RB	BSB 183/48 183/764540	Tricia Anderson 07753613180
Sep 24th- Sep 29th	Mill Farm, Long Compton, Warks CV36 5NZ	151/278332	John & Polly Gerner 07734852656
Oct 8th- Oct 13th	Graffham C C Club site booked meet GU28 0QJ	197/941187	Trevor & Deb Masters 02392381220 07765040211



MAS Northern Area 2015 Meets List

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO STEWARD A MEET PLEASE ADD YOUR DETAILS BELOW

If you haven't stewarded a meet before and would like to know more,
please contact Alastair on 01274 566412 or Steve on 01142 884752

Date and Nights	Map ref, Site Location and Area	Event/info	Steward Tel and Mobile
20 – 22 Mar 2	103/899404 Colne CC Byron Rd Colne	AGM (MAS- N)	Geoff and Carole 07788197649
2-7 April 5	100/548780 Brink House Farm Coxwold		Geoff and Carole 07788197649
16-19 April 3	98/815641 Settle FC Settle		Peter and Christine 01200 427289
30 Ap– 5 May 5	99/157655 Showground Bewerley Park Pateley Bridge	National AGM	John and Jane + committee 07768921192
5- 10 May 5	104/362560 The Lido Knaresborough		Dave and Viv 07949649232
14-19 May 5	98/778692 Silloth House Austwick	Invite to Nelda	John and Frances 07591161875
21- 31 May 10	89/088023 Kemplerigg (THS) Gosforth		Lesley and Steve 07779750124
4-7 June 3	104/071539 Bolton Abbey Top car park, Bolton Abbey	Invite to Nelda	John and Kathryn 07931939376
18-23 June 5	119/196827 Four Acres Derbyshire	Peakland	Invite from Peakland Stewarded by Peakland
24-28 June 4	103/717445 Gannies Farm Waddington		Margaret and John 01254 879812

Dates and Nights	Map ref, Site Location and Area	Event/info	Steward Tel and Mobile
8 -13 July 5	98/702870 High Laning Farm Dent		Colin and Chris 07968226598
23-28 July 5	94/792170 Greylands Farm Hinderwell		Janice and Ian 07964622779
28 July – 2 Aug 5	100/705900 Church View Hutton le Hole	Invite to Spen valley	Steve and Linda 07791701793
11 – 16 Aug 5	97/607793 Rugby Club Kirkby Lonsdale		Keith and Wendy 07749569120
27 Aug – 1 Sept 5	87/885717 Greencarts Farm Hexham		Jean and Alastair 07964902551
1-6 Sept 5	92/992391 Stanhope Showground Stanhope		Dot and Barry 07791026435
11-13 Sept 2	98/898623 Showground Malham	Nelda	Invite from Nelda Stewarded by Nelda
18 – 23 Sept 5	89/258234 Club Site Keswick		Diane and Ian 07761661039
23-28 Sept 5	97/472759 Silver Saplings Silverdale		Sylvia and Mike 01254 667474
8-11 Oct 3	99/099733 Studfold Farm Lofthouse	Ehu £3 pn	Mike and Sue 079297173333
22 – 25 Oct 3	110/044105 Marsden CC Kirklees	Hardstanding	Diane and Ian 07761661039

A WALK WITH A DIFFERENCE

3 members of MAS, Julia, Trish and myself joined our Wessex Secretary Viv with her local group of walkers on a guided walk in London to see the poppies at the Tower of London.

We all gathered in Green Park and headed towards Buckingham Palace. Unfortunately when Viv planned the date she didn't realise that it was school half term. To avoid the enormous crowds by the Palace waiting for the Change of the Guard, we turned left out of the park, crossing over the Mall into St James Park and through to Horse Guards Parade.

In the top corner of the park we stopped for half an hour to look at the splendid exhibition of 60 huge coloured photographs, entitled 'The Fields of Battle/Lands of Peace' depicting landscapes of World War One battlefields as they are today. You would need a few hours to study each photo and read the accompanying description, however if still available you can see and read about them on the internet.

Crossing Horse Guards, we turned right down Whitehall. There was some discussion about the 'Monument to the Women of World War 11, some agreeing that it was ugly but some thinking that it was a fitting tribute. Crossing Westminster Bridge we turned left to walk down the south bank of the Thames. We passed many well-known landmarks, the London Eye, Festival Hall, Tate Modern, HMS Belfast and Shakespeare's Globe to name but a few. We stopped for our picnic lunch; unlike our normal lunchtime stop sitting in a field or perched on a log, we were able to enjoy sitting on benches overlooking the Thames.

As we continued to our crossing point back over the river via the Millennium footbridge we paused to watch a man doing a complicated sand sculpture beside the water's edge.

Reaching the north side of the Thames we then headed for the Tower of London to see the glorious display of respect for those lost in WW1. Viv had warned us that we may have problems seeing the poppies due to the enormous crowds, but as people were moving to different vantage points all the time we had no difficulty in experiencing this once in a lifetime event. Looking at the 888,246 ceramic poppies, all different and individually produced, it made me realise how they represented each person who had lost their life, all individuals, all ages and from all walks of life. All around the moat was a sea of red with some poppies cascading down from the walls of the building, it really was a sight to be seen. Volunteers were still



planting more poppies daily. Yes, there were crowds, and at one point we seemed to be going in the opposite direction to everyone else but it was all calm with people moving quietly.

From here we went to St Katherine's Dock where the *Gloriana*, the row barge used by the Queen during her Diamond Jubilee Parade down the river, is moored. It was looking splendid in the sunshine with the gold paint gleaming. Beside the *Gloriana* was the oddest 'thing' in the water. Entitled 'Hippothames', it was an enormous wooden structure supposedly resembling a hippopotamus. Why it was there, who knows, but I believe that it ended up in St Katherine's Dock as the previous place it was sited did not want it (I am not surprised).

We then headed over Tower Bridge to finish our 6 mile tour walking through the quieter streets of Bermondsey to catch the underground back to where we started.

Many thanks to Viv for arranging such an interesting day and managing in spite of the crowds to keep her 'brood' together, she was constantly having to do a head count to make sure we were all present.

We were so lucky with the weather and this is a day I shall remember for a long time.

Pat Fowler

Reader's corner

Wanting to stock up the Kindle recently, I went on to Amazon and looked at the low-cost books and freebies. Among them were the Science Fiction Megapacks, which contain stories that I read a LONG time ago when I was young! It's quite nice to revisit *The Stainless Steel Rat* by Harry Harrison, and a few others that I missed at the time. Some are still way out, others have been passed by due to the passage of time—a phone with a camera in it and video calls are no longer the stuff of science fiction!!



Toni

Editor's bit

Hello All,

My thanks to all those who sent in snippets to help fill the pages and to communicate with the silent majority. As I said before, anything and everything is welcome. One of the things to start coming through the selection of input is the diversity yet commonality of interests and activities we all enjoy. What do you think?

My email address is [REDACTED] — send anything and everything here. There is also a link to me on the Activity website, so you can use that for a direct link if you find that easier. My snail mail address is 12 Orchard Lane, Emsworth, PO10 8BH, so as a last resort, send letters here.

I can accept information in just about any format - Word, text, PDF, or written as a normal letter, and photos as digital or prints, though anything too complex in layout does cause the occasional headache!.

*It's your magazine - fill it with your information
and news!*

*The next edition is due at the beginning of April 2015
- deadline for input is 15th march, please.*

