

# Activity

The newsletter for the  
Walking and Cycling Section  
of the Camping and Caravanning Club



Red kites were constant visitors at the Wessex meet at White Mark Farm, Watlington.

Photo by John Gerner



Issue 122  
Late 2021



## Francines WAC-*Keynotes*

Well, it doesn't seem long since we were excitedly anticipating a return to our organised meets .... then Boris pressed the green light and we were up and off to savour our escape to the rejuvenating countryside.

My grateful thanks to our meet stewards & organisers for all their hard work, enthusiasm and friendship during these strange Covid times. Meets have been well attended and since we have been able to enjoy organised walks/cycle rides with social gatherings, this has given us the feeling of nearing normality. Pre-booking for meets has been very helpful informing steward's preparations for events and this will continue for the time being.

Sections have been finalising their 2022 meet programs and these will be posted on the Walking & Cycling website & via the Out & About magazine/app.

Autumn with its kaleidoscope of colour its now in full swing and our last meets are taking place for 2021, here's hoping that 2022 brings more settled times for us all

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone who supported me in my 2021miles walking & cycling challenge in aid of Midlands Air Ambulance & I am proud to announce that I have now completed it, raising in total £5499-00 for such a vital service.

With warm regards to you all

*Francine Nutt*

Section Council Chairman

## Margaret Clarke

It is with great sadness we have to announce the sudden death of Margaret Clarke on 20th September 2021 . Margaret together with her husband Keith were active members of the Mountain Activity Section (Northern Area) for many years.

Deepest sympathy and condolences to Keith and all their family.

RIP



Many years ago an old chap in the village was asked what he did when he was sat on the seat on the village green. His reply was wonderful.

*"Sometimes I sits and thinks, and sometimes I just sits."*

## Nuholme Wessex Meet

My wife Lesley and I have just rejoined the Caravan and Camping Club after a long absence. Excited to participate in the activities of the Walking and Cycling Section we chose Watlington in the Chilterns as our first meet and were made so welcome by all the members present, so it was with great enthusiasm that we set off for a second Wessex Meet in the Cotswolds at the lovely little town of Chipping Norton. We can now pass on our first newbie tip - don't rely on Google to ensure you are in the right location for a Meet, rather use the postcode and coordinates supplied by the Stewards. We ended up at the wrong campsite on the South side of Chipping Norton and spent half an hour relocating ourselves to the correct site to the West! Having pitched up with the expert guidance of the on-site Stewards we calculated we had enough time to take advantage of the beautiful autumnal day, late sunshine and take a short walk to the Rollright Stones. These are neolithic Gathering places dating back in time to 3500 to 1500 BC. Beautiful in the setting sun on the Golden Cotswold landscape.



The very next day we were pleased to join a 10-mile walk to Churchill which was an opportunity to learn about the historical characters that lived within this region in the late 18th century, one of whom was a certain Warren Hastings who lived with his grandfather, Rector of Daylesford Church. They lived in the Manor House but as it fell on hard times had to be sold and Warren was sent to London to Business School. He then joined the East India Company which at that time owned most of India. He rose to the position of Governor-General of Bengal and played a significant role in combating corruption in the local area before returning home and from his



savings rebuilt the Manor House in Daylesford. Some say he was a fulcrum in the creation of the British Empire.

Later on in the walk, as we returned towards Chipping Norton we were accosted by this wonderful sight. Originally constructed and designed in the 19th Century, this grade II listed building is the worlds only structure with a purpose-built toilet plunger on the top! Bliss Tweed Mill is a former mill for the manufacture of tweed. It is located on the edge of Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, United Kingdom. It became a Grade II\* listed building in 1980. The mill was built in 1872 for cloth manufacturer William Bliss, to make fine tweed cloth from locally produced wool.



On the final day, I lead a walk to Cornwell, Daylesford Hamlet (including the Daylesford Organics Emporium), Lower Oddington and Adlestrop. We paused for a coffee stop at the now famous village bus shelter. The neighbouring furry friend was quick out to see if the latest visitors to his bus shelter had any goodies.



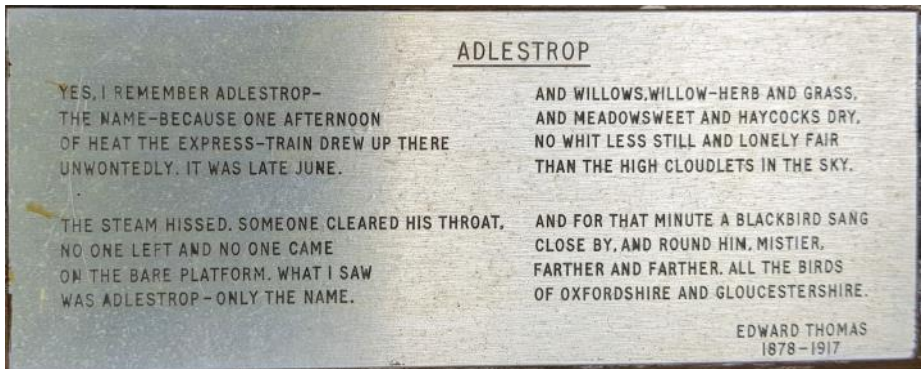
According to 'Historic England', the building contents are listed at Grade II as railway structures that inspired the poem 'Adlestrop' by Edward Thomas, one of England's foremost war poets, and who fell at the Battle of Arras in 1917; the sign and



seat are unaltered examples of bespoke GWR fittings from the heyday of railway travel in the late C19, the seat and sign are relocated structures from the former Adlestrop Station. The station had opened in 1853 as part of the Oxford, Worcester and Wolverhampton Line, was amalgamated into the Great Western Railway in 1863, and was closed in 1966. Following closure the station fittings were removed to a storage facility and the sign and seat were eventually given to the village of Adlestrop by British Rail. The sign and seat were installed in the village as part of a bus stop, and serve as a memorial to the station which was immortalised by (Philip) Edward Thomas (1878-1917) in the poem 'Adlestrop' in 1915. The sign itself was one particular focus of the poem. Edward Thomas was inspired to write the poem when



his express train made a brief stop at the station in June 1914. The poem evokes of the beauty of the English countryside in counterpoint to the horrors that were about to intervene in the lives of many with the onset of the First World War. 'Adlestrop' captured a moment of bucolic serenity and innocence that was about to be lost. Following training, Thomas was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Garrison Artillery in November 1916. He was posted to France in January 1917 and served with no. 244 siege battery. He was killed by a shell blast on 9 April 1917 during the first hour of the Battle of Arras, and is buried in Agny military cemetery.



### ADLESTROP

YES, I REMEMBER ADLESTROP—  
THE NAME—BECAUSE ONE AFTERNOON  
OF HEAT THE EXPRESS—TRAIN DREW UP THERE  
UNWONTEDLY. IT WAS LATE JUNE.

THE STEAM HISSED. SOMEONE CLEARED HIS THROAT.  
NO ONE LEFT AND NO ONE CAME  
ON THE BARE PLATFORM. WHAT I SAW  
WAS ADLESTROP—ONLY THE NAME.

AND WILLOWS, WILLOW—HERB AND GRASS,  
AND MEADOWSWEET AND HAYCOCKS DRY,  
NO WHIT LESS STILL AND LONELY FAIR  
THAN THE HIGH CLOUDLETS IN THE SKY.

AND FOR THAT MINUTE A BLACKBIRD SANG  
CLOSE BY, AND ROUND HIM, MISTIER,  
FARTHER AND FARTHER. ALL THE BIRDS  
OF OXFORDSHIRE AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

EDWARD THOMAS  
1878—1917



Walking over Mam tor for the first time and wondering why I have never done it before. Brilliant views.

Loved it.

*Christine Mason*

Third day of Wainwright's Way Blackburn to Buttermere. Try not to do this when there's 8 miles left to walk. Most of the group tried not to laugh but didn't succeed.

*Margaret Allen*



## It's quality, not quantity.

Oh dear. What with lockdown and then a prolonged problem with our van fridge, Deb and I have experienced a rather truncated season so far this year. However, it's quality not quantity that counts and our experiences now have more than made up for earlier disappointments. One of the really enjoyable things has been meeting up with so many old faces. And I mean old in both senses; friendships that now go back many years and, less positively, signs that many of us are now bearing witness to the effects of ageing in terms of reduced stamina and flexibility. Never mind, eh!

A really positive aspect of recent meets is the growing number of new faces we are seeing. And, presumably as evidence that we are making them feel welcome and meeting their expectations, seeing them return for further meets! And, in a number of instances have led walks and cycle rides and are arranging to steward future meets. Great.

This week we have just had a meeting, on zoom, of the Section Council. For the benefit of newcomers the council is our main administrative body with our three Areas, Northern, Peakland and Wessex having committees to take charge of more local matters.

Although a number of us – myself included – were still having fun and games with technology, it was really great to see friends from further afield. It was also strange, but more relaxed, not to have to chair the meeting and very reassuring that the responsibility is now in Francine's capable hands.

For me, however, the saddest part of the meeting was the report that our Northern Area – our original Area – is again facing the real possibility of not being able to form a committee at its next AGM. This despite having been able to run a successful meets programme this year and having enough volunteers to steward next year's meets.

Finding people willing to serve on committees is not a problem found only in the Camping and Caravanning Club. Many organisations are struggling to fill vacancies. I prefer to think this is down to people being apprehensive about taking on responsibilities rather than them being quite content to leave it all to other people whilst they simply expect to enjoy what is laid on for them.

If you are one of our newer members and understandably a little apprehensive about getting stuck in, please feel free to talk to us old faces. We'll be more than happy to explain what the various responsibilities entail. And it's with you newer members that the future of this Section rests.

Look forward to seeing you, old and new, on a field somewhere!

*Trev Masters*

Chair of Wessex Area



## Walking and Cycling Section Officers 2019/20

(Further contact details may be found on the website)

Chairperson W&CS Executive Member (2020)	Francine Nutt (07542465589)
Vice Chairperson W&CS Executive Member (2020)	Barry Cowlard (07770 287434)
President	Andrew Wood (07852040724 )
Vice Presidents	Carole Booth (07788197649) Christine Stevenson Terry Bishop Diane Goodyear (07761949896)
Secretary W&CSExecutive Member (2019)	Christine Mason (07751312330)
Treasurer W&CS Executive Member	Tim Clarke (07867498825 )
PRO/Website Co-ordinator Elected Member (2019)	John Gerner (077348852656)
Membership Secretary Elected Member (2017)	Les Morton (07967900225)
Minutes Secretary	Sandra Wain (07858-529891)
Newsletter Editor Elected Member (2019)	Toni Busuttill-Reynaud (07762326340)
Webmaster	Adrian Rose
Other elected Members to Section Council Also W&CS Executive Member	John Allen (07505906849) Barry Cowlard (07770 287434) Trevor Masters Graham Mason
Advisory Officer to National Council	Les Morton
Deputy Advisory Officer (2018)	Barry Cowlard
Representatives to Section Council	Northern Area John Bradley
	Peakland Area Jean Morton
	Wessex Area Deb Masters (07765 040211)
<u>Area Secretaries</u>	Northern Area Jean Richards (07964902612)
	Peakland Area Sandra Wain (07858-529891)
	Wessex Area John Gerner (07734-852656)
Section Forum Reps	Trevor Masters, Debs Masters and Barry Cowlard
National Council Rep. to W&CS	Steve Harris (07567183893)

## The joys of levelling your unit



Having had some hairy moments with levelling ramps and the fact that I usually travel alone made the task of getting level on site frustrating. I finally made the decision to get a hydraulic levelling system fitted... yes a little pricey but the benefits for me are huge. Levelling at the touch of a button, a stable level platform, no rocking when inside, the sinks drain, the fridge maintains its equilibrium and no sleeping on a slant.

I chose the Ma-Ve system as it uses lightweight hydraulic jacks which are



deployed in pairs which ensures zero risk of the chassis/bodywork being twisted during deployment, each jack is capable of supporting 2 tons. Anyone want some Milenco ramps?

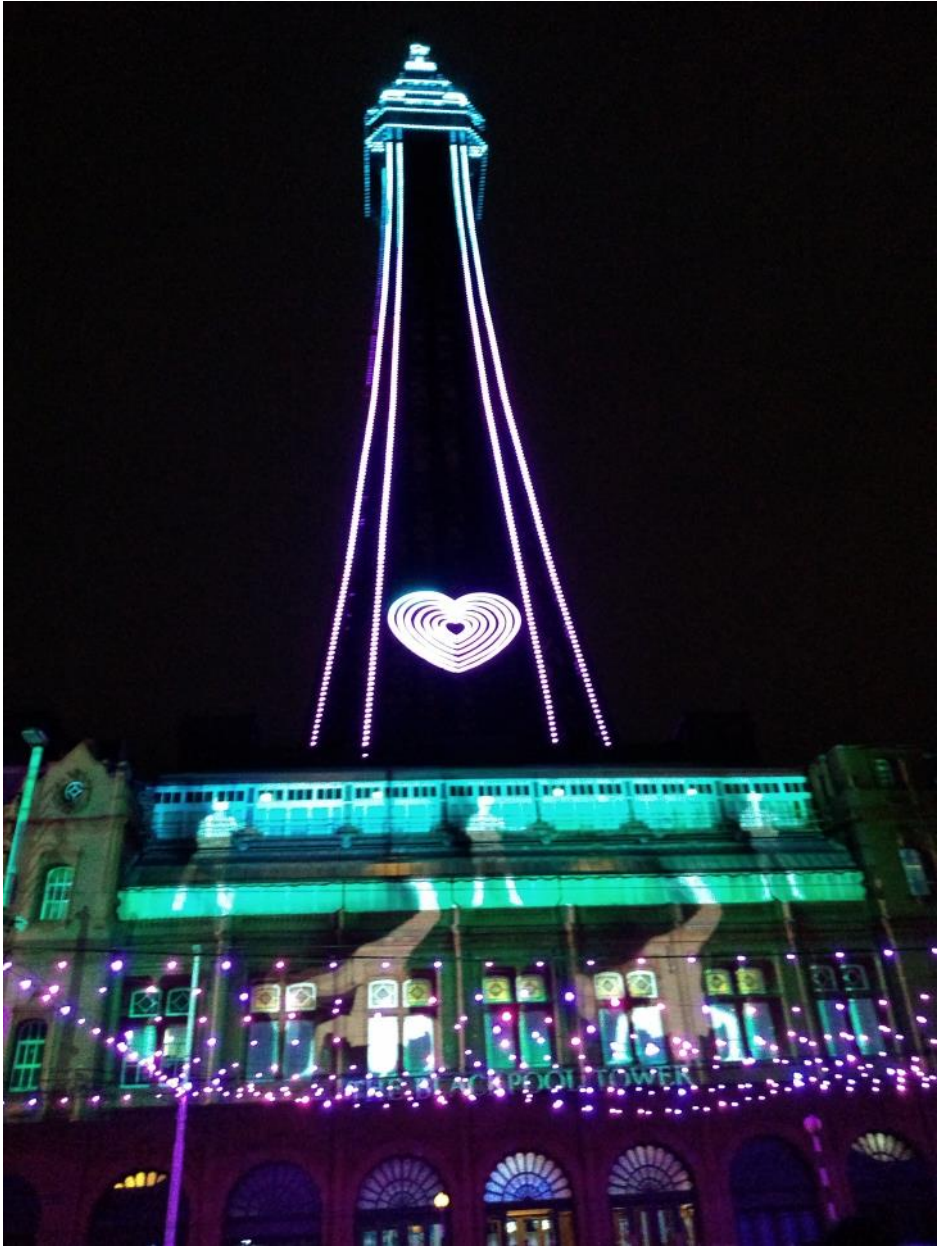


*Francine  
Nutt*

One of the delights of going for a walk through the countryside is never knowing what you might come across. On a walk from the Wessex Area meet at Beverley Farm near Medstead in Hampshire the first surprise was the Red Arrows flying overhead in formation. Next was a glimpse of period dresses hanging from the washing line in the courtyard of Jane Austen's house in Chawton. Also on display in the village were numerous straw animals adorning thatched roofs. A few minutes after leaving Chawton a heritage train came into view on The Watercress Line. Disappointingly a diesel loco rather than steam. Then, as we turned the corner, an empty bench in front of the pavilion was spotted so we could watch Southern Premier League cricket while eating our lunch.

*John*





No prizes for guessing where this is. Northern Area invite from Leeds DA.  
Staying at St Anne's cricket club. Enjoying coastal walks.

*John Allen*





These two pictures encapsulate the spirit of the Walking and Cycling Section for me. They were at the Wessex meet at White Mark Farm, Watlington, and show the inevitable tea time gathering (we'll all be glad when the restrictions are lifted and we can share cake again!!) and proof that cyclists do come out with us.

*Toni Reynaud*





## Roundhill in the New Forest

One of the Wessex meets this year was at Roundhill, a Camping in the Forest site in the New Forest. This is on the admin site of a WW11 Airfield, so the main site is enormous, but the rally field is tucked away to the north of the area and would comfortably hold 30 units, so our planned meet of 23 fitted easily. The staff were exceedingly helpful, and ensured that the field was unlocked when the stewards arrived. The first members arrived dead on time, and the field quickly became occupied with units. Some immediately went out for exploratory walks, and afternoon tea was well attended, all setting the scene for a good weekend.

Ponies visited the field each morning and evening but were no trouble, never more than an interesting interlude. Long and short walks were



arranged for each day both on the open heathland, across and around the main airfield area (where we watched the local model aircraft club flying) and through various iterations of forest proper, with

deciduous and fir trees in different areas. Those with cycles managed to find sensible routes for rides out, though the gravel tracks were not the most popular. There were visits to Beaulieu, Buckler's Hard, Lymington (good market there on Saturdays),



*We think his parking ticket has expired!!*

Keyhaven, Milford-on-Sea and Brockenhurst. We occasionally glimpsed deer, but no really good sightings. One group of ladies found a sensible route into Brockenhurst to visit a Craft Fair. All in all, it was a good weekend, with the rain arriving overnight just as we were getting ready to pack up and go – well organised by the stewards!!



Top to bottom:  
*A beautiful old farmhouse;  
 Cash crop being picked up;  
 Natural barley twist trees;  
 "I'm watching you!";  
 A big bow;  
 "Hard work, this  
 Stewarding!!"*



*Judith Vince* ↑  
*Ann Oxford* →  
*Other photos and  
 words -  
 Toni Reynaud*



## PEAKLAND WALKING & CYCLING SECTION

### 2022 SITES LIST

**Group Contacts: Les Morton (Chair) 07967-900225**

**Amanda 07772-364835 & Mark 07773-941342 Sites Officers**

**All Sites open at 2pm unless otherwise stated**

DATES	VENUE & MAP REF	STEWARDS
16/03 to 20/03	Alton Club Site, Cotton, Oakmoor, Staffs ST10 3DW 119/066458	FRANCINE 07542 465589
31/03 to 03/04	Sterndale Green Farm, King Sterndale, SK17 9SF 119/093720 <b>PEAKLAND AGM MEET</b>	HAZEL AND ANDY 077857 46857
13/04 to 18/04	Wern Farm, Cwdu, Crickhowell NP8 1RW 161/180240 <b>EASTER MEET</b>	CINDY 07402-918205
28/04 to 03/05	Matlock Rugby Club, Cromford Meadows, Off Mill Lane, DE4 3RQ 119/303568 <b>SECTION AGM MEET</b>	COMMITTEE
19/05 to 22/05	Dowall Farm, Glutton Bridge, Longnor SK17 0RW 119/076675	AMANDA AND MARK 07772364835/07773941342
01/06 to 06/06	Stanley Villa, Drury Lane, Biggin SK17 0DL 119/152595 <b>QUEENS 70<sup>TH</sup> JUBILEE</b>	CLAIRE AND CHRIS 07492 -087747
21/06 to 26/06	Golden Gates Site, Chatsworth Estate, Baslow DE45 1PP 119/261723	SANDRA & ROGER 01246- 232379/ 07858-529891
27/07 to 01/08	Ranah Stones Farm, Hazelhead, Penistone S36 4HJ 110/197029	PETER 07949449162
25/08 to 30/08	Four Acres, Hope Road, Thornhill S33 0AL 110/196827 <b>AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY</b>	ELAINE AND ROBIN 07399570796
14/09 to 19/09	Yew Tree Farm, Pound Bank, Far Forest, Kidderminster DY14 9TH 138/730742	JEAN AND LES 07967900225
29/09 to 02/10	Hobson Farm, Rock House, Flagg, Buxton SK17 9QR 119/139685	CHRISTINE AND GRAHAM 07751312330/ 07840267102
13/10 to 16/10	Church Farm, Hackney Lane, Barlow S18 7TR 119/344748	SALLY AND BRASS 07909045559/ 07549148228
26/10 to 30/10	Thorntree Farm, Columbel Lane, Uppertown, Ashover S45 0JF 119/320653 <b>END OF SEASON/HALF TERM</b>	MELVYN 07960184316

**NORTHERN WALKING & CYCLING SECTION**  
**2022 SITES LIST**  
**All Sites open at 2pm unless otherwise stated**

DATE	Location & Map Ref	Stewards
01/04-06/04/22	Woodend Farm Austwick Invite to NELDA 98/780691	Chris & Colin 07982667115
14/04-19/04/22	Chipping Showground Chipping Easter Meet 102/624426	Margaret & John 07505906849
28/04-03/05/22	Matlock Rugby Club Cromford Meadows Section AGM & FOW 119/303568	Peakland
26/05-05/06/22	Kemplerigg Gosforth THS Western Lakes 89/088023	Steve & Lesley 07551199818
09/06-13/06/22	Gibraltar Farm Silverdale Invite from NELDA 97/461737	NELDA
07/07-12/07/22	Castlerigg Farm Keswick Booked Meet 90/228224	Tony & Tricia 07748746741
11/08-16/08/22	Clotherholme Farm Ripon 99/285723	Dave & Viv 07949649232
08/09-13/09/22	Riverside, Ruswarp (Prov) Ruswarp Invite from SYDA (Prov) 94/886090	SYDA
20/10-24/10/22	Newsholme Manor Keighley 104/029395	Steward required

# Wessex Meets 2022

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL – OPENING DATE FOR BOOKINGS TO BE CONFIRMED**

For meets at Camping & Caravanning Club and Camping in the Forest sites email [wessexbookings@walkingandcycling.org.uk](mailto:wessexbookings@walkingandcycling.org.uk) and ask for a booking form. For all other meets, phone stewards to book.

Venues and stewards subject to change. Meets may be cancelled due to Government Covid-19 guidance, Camping & Caravanning Club instructions or onsite ground conditions. Please check our website, <https://walkingandcycling.org.uk>, the latest edition of Out & About Magazine or by contacting the stewards 2 days before travelling.

**NO ENTRY TO MEETS BEFORE 12 NOON ON THE OPENING DAY or BEFORE 1 PM ON EACH DAY FOR MEETS ON CLUB SITES**

Date	Site	Stewards
3 <sup>rd</sup> to 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Blackmore C&CC Site, Hanley Swan, Worcestershire, WR8 0EE. SO812440	John & Polly 07734 852 656
17 <sup>th</sup> to 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Charmouth C&CC Site, Monkton Wyld Farm, Dorset, DT6 6DB. SY329965	Trev & Deb 07765 040 211
31 <sup>st</sup> March to 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Harry's Field, Abbotswell Rd, Frogham Fordingbridge, Hampshire, SP6 2JA. SU173130 <b>Wessex AGM</b>	Hilary & Mike 07745 566 694
14 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Easter</b>	Carthage Farm, Foy, Ross on Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 6QY. SO593283	Barry & Jackie 07949 049 631
28 <sup>th</sup> April to 3 <sup>rd</sup> May <b>Bank Holiday</b>	Matlock RFC, Cromford, Derbyshire, DE4 3RQ. SK303568 <b>Section AGM and National Festival of Walking &amp; Cycling</b>	Hosted by Peakland Area
5 <sup>th</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Pit Hill Farm, Kidmore Lane, Denmead, Hampshire. P07 6JY. SU656135	Toni & Annette 07762 326 340
19 <sup>th</sup> to 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Tarrant Crawford Farm, Tarrant Crawford, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 9HY. ST922038	Alan & Dawn 07776 835 498



Date	Site	Stewards
2 <sup>nd</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> June Bank	Cherry Tree Farm, Woodford Halse, Daventry, Northamptonshire, NN11 3SB. SP557517	<b>To be confirmed</b>
30 <sup>th</sup> June to 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Stow on the Wold RFC, Oddington Rd, Stow on the Wold, Gloucestershire, GL54 1JJ. SP214255	Peter & Sue 07847 030 542
14 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Fir Tree Farm, Warmington, Oxfordshire, OX17 IJL. SP407471	Tricia & Jenny 07753 613 180
28 <sup>th</sup> July to 2 <sup>nd</sup> August	Nunnington Farm, Wiveliscombe, Taunton, Somerset, TA4 2AD. ST086265	<b>STEWARDS REQUIRED</b>
11 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> August	Ellwood AFC, Ellwood, Coleford, Gloucestershire, GL16 7LY. <b>Invite to Peakland</b> SO594083	Alan & Lynne 07790 189 115
25 <sup>th</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> August Bank	Ocknell Camping in the Forest Site, Fritham, Hampshire, SO43 7HH. SU252118	Derek & Lesley 07443 841 560
8 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Crackmoor Farm, Sherbourne, Dorset, DT9 5AA. ST660184	Colin & Debbie 07752 689 597
22 <sup>nd</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Bledlow Cricket Club. West Lane, Bledlow, Buckinghamshire, HP27 9PF. SP773024	Mick & Lindie 07811 883 552
6 <sup>th</sup> to 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Graffham C&CC Site, Petworth, West Sussex, GU28 0QF. SU941187	Pat M. 07746 468 375
20 <sup>th</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Devizes C&CC Site, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 6RN. ST951619	Hilary and Robin 07905 371 108

**FESTIVAL OF WALKING AND CYCLING AND  
AGM OF THE WALKING AND CYCLING SECTION  
28<sup>th</sup> April – 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022**

**Matlock Rugby Club, Cromford Meadows  
Off Mill Lane, DE4 3RQ**

The meet site is situated very near to the village of Cromford and the Cromford canal (second photograph). Cromford is an historic village, part of which is designated as a World Heritage Site, surrounded by some glorious scenery with both high and low level walks. The village has shops, chippy, cafes and pubs and a tranquil mill pond behind the Greyhound Hotel (top photograph).

Cromford is forever associated with Sir Richard Arkwright as the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution. Arkwright built the world's first water powered cotton mills here and pioneered the factory system. Cromford developed around the mills as a purpose built industrial community. Arkwright's first mill, just off the A6, is undergoing long-term restoration by the Arkwright Society. This is open to the public with guided tours, museum, shops and cafes.

The village is packed full of interest; behind the Greyhound Hotel in the square is the tranquil mill pond (top photograph), alongside the river is the Cromford Canal which was linked to the Cromford and High Peak Railway just to the south of the village. Nearby Middleton Top has a cycle hire which is on the High Peak trail which is very popular with cyclists, although there are one or two steep inclines. There are some good walks along the canal from Cromford wharf to High Peak Junction where there is a visitor Centre. There are also more challenging walks around the area taking in stunning views and more local history.

The hall is on site and we are fortunate to have some excellent entertainment on the Sunday evening, Saturday will be the AGM followed by the usual Bring and Share Supper.

Come along and join us in this beautiful, historical and scenic area of Derbyshire, we look forward to welcoming you.

Nearby attractions: Chatsworth House, Carsington Water (cycling around the reservoir), Crich Tramway Museum, walk or take a cable car up to Abraham's Heights at nearby Matlock Bath. Other towns close by Matlock, Bakewell, Ashbourne and Wirksworth

*Sandra Wain*

Peakland Area