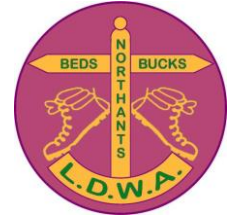




**LDWA : BEDS BUCKS NORTHANTS GROUP**  
**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2021 AT 2 PM**  
**AT ELLESBOROUGH PARISH HALL,**  
**BUTLERS CROSS HP17 0TX**



The meeting commenced at 2.35 pm

Present: 25

Lizzie Bridge, Dee Brockway, Terry Brown, Gill Bunker, Norman Corrin, John Davies, Karen Earwicker, Peter Engledow, David Findel-Hawkins, Phil Friede, Mike Hyland, Sandra Hyland, Therese Jamin, Trevor Jones, Ed Kendrick, Mary Knight, Merrian Lancaster, Brian Layton, Alan Leadbetter, David Sedgley, Phil Vidler, Sara Waldron, Colin Watson, Dave Yorston, Lynn Yorston

Terry welcomed everyone to the meeting, and thanked Dave Yorston for leading the morning walk; and Dave and Lynn for arranging the hall for the meeting and the splendid lunch. She thanked the tea/coffee providers Mary and Karen, and both Karen and Alan for their delicious homemade cake.

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b> Chris Burns, Roy Carter, Steve Clark, Sarah Feal, Frank Hodgson, Adrian Moody, Jane & Roger O'Dea, Val Thompson
<b>2.</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING</b> The Minutes had been available on the website and it was agreed they could be taken as read. They were approved as a true record. Prop: Alan Leadbetter Sec: Merrian Lancaster and Agreed. Terry mentioned two items which might arise which were not on the Agenda: Item 3(j) The 2021 Local Group meeting. The notes of the meeting were only circulated a month or so ago. Item 9(b) Marsden Moors Weekend 2021 – this could not go ahead.
<b>3.</b>	<b>OFFICERS' REPORTS</b> Terry reminded the meeting that the reports covered the reporting year of 1st October until 30th September. It was agreed that all reports would be taken as read as they had been available to read on the website
<b>(a)</b>	<b>Chair Terry Brown</b> See Chair's Report p.6-7. Terry said her report was an overview of the year, There were no questions arising from Terry's report.
<b>(b)</b>	<b>Secretary Gill Bunker</b> See Secretary's Report p.8. There were no questions arising from Gill's report.
<b>(c)</b>	<b>Treasurer and Proposal to Accept the Accounts Peter Engledow</b> See Treasurer's Report and Accounts p.8-9. Peter said it had been a quiet year on the financial front but confirmed that the group's bank balance was healthy. Dave Yorston queried income from the Shillington Shuffle (21.11.2021) being shown in this reporting year's accounts. Peter said he thought this was the first part of the monies coming in from SiEntries, but he would check. <b>Proposal to Accept the Accounts</b> It was proposed that the Accounts be approved, Prop: Sara Waldron, Sec: Mike Hyland and Agreed.
<b>(d)</b>	<b>Membership Alan Leadbetter</b> See report p.9. There were no questions arising from Alan's report.

<b>(e)</b>	<b>Challenge Walk Co-ordinator <i>Mike Hyland</i></b>
	See report p.9. There were no questions arising from Mike's report.
<b>(f)</b>	<b>Social Walks <i>Sara Waldron</i></b>
	See report p.9-10. There were no questions arising from Sara's report.
<b>(g)</b>	<b>Merchandise <i>Peter Engledow</i></b>
	Peter said he was pleased to see various items of BBN clothing on display at the meeting, and recommended that members take a look at the PECO website which can be accessed via the BBN website. There were no questions arising from Peter's report.
<b>(h)</b>	<b>Equipment <i>Lynn Yorston</i></b>
	See report p10. Lynn had raised the question that there may be items of equipment stored that were never going to be used. Terry confirmed that a post-Shillington Shuffle meeting was taking place in January and the equipment being stored would be reviewed then. A decision could then be taken at the January committee meeting. There were no other questions arising from Lynn's report.
<b>(i)</b>	<b>Website <i>Gill Bunker</i></b>
	See report p.10. There were no questions arising from Gill's report.
<b>(j)</b>	<b>Newsletter <i>Gill Bunker</i></b>
	See report p.10. Gill explained her reasons for suggesting that the Newsletter be discontinued; it had been superseded by email News updates/social media, but much more relevant was the fact that only 5 members (other than committee members) had contributed in the last three years, Only two non-committee members had contributed in the last two years. There had, however, been a good response (27 contributors) to the "How I came to join the LDWA" item during the first lockdown as this had obviously struck a chord with members at the time, but then there were only 3 responses to "My favourite walk".
	It was noted that Steve Clark had offered to take over the Newsletter.
	Terry asked what the feeling of those present was. If they agreed the Newsletter had been superseded by the Tuesday News, then she did not think it should continue simply because someone had offered to produce it.
	Dave Yorston commented that he did not really read the Newsletter now it was online only.
	Terry asked for a show of hands to gauge the mood of the meeting regarding the future of the newsletter and whether at this moment in time it should be discontinued, on the understanding that it could be resurrected in the future. No-one spoke in favour of continuing with it. A decision will be made at the January committee meeting.
	Thanks to Steve Clark for his offer to take over the Newsletter.
<b>(k)</b>	<b>Local Groups Representative <i>Peter Engledow</i></b>
	Peter had attended the recent LGR meeting (12th/14th November). There would be a formal note coming out from the meeting with a report in April 2022 Strider.
	Briefly, Peter said there had been discussions about: The role of the NEC (particularly with reference to the Covid regulations), the Toolkit on the LDWA website, LDWA 50th anniversary plans, volunteering and local group sustainability, they liked BBN emails and the "welcome" phone calls to new members, how to encourage new walk leaders, themed groups, diversity and inclusion, campaigning, charity status, the future of the website.
	David Findel-Hawkins asked how many local groups had been represented. Peter said 22, which was disappointing, but there had possibly been some Covid reluctance which had reduced attendance.
	Peter will produce a report for the Tuesday News
<b>4.</b>	<b>ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE</b>
	Terry confirmed that as nominations for the three Officer and seven Committee posts had been made in advance (according to the Constitution) with no contested posts, there was no need to have a vote and, therefore, each nominated person would be duly elected.

<b>(a)</b>	<b>Chair:</b> Peter took the chair for the election of the Chair.			
	Terry Brown having previously been nominated, with no further nominations, was re-elected Chair.			
	<b>Position</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Second</b>
	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Terry Brown</b>	<b>Val Thompson</b>	<b>Karen Scorer</b>
<b>(b)</b>	<b>Secretary:</b> Gill Bunker having previously been nominated, with no further nominations, was re-elected Secretary.			
	<b>Position</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Second</b>
	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Gill Bunker</b>	<b>Rachel Martin</b>	<b>Victoria Martin</b>
<b>(c)</b>	<b>Treasurer:</b> Peter Engledow having previously been nominated, with no further nominations, was re-elected Treasurer.			
	<b>Position</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Second</b>
	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Peter Engledow</b>	<b>Therese Jamin</b>	<b>Terry Brown</b>
<b>(d)</b>	<b>Election of Committee Members</b>			
	Nominations having been received beforehand, and with no further nominations at the meeting, the following Committee members were elected:			
	<b>Position</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Second</b>
	<b>Member</b>	<b>Sara Waldron</b>	<b>Steve Clark</b>	<b>Colin Watson</b>
	<b>Member</b>	<b>Roy Carter</b>	<b>Sarah Feal</b>	<b>Gill Bunker</b>
	<b>Member</b>	<b>Alan Leadbetter</b>	<b>Sara Waldron</b>	<b>Norman Corrin</b>
	<b>Member</b>	<b>Mary Knight</b>	<b>Dave Findel-Hawkins</b>	<b>Merrian Lancaster</b>
	<b>Member</b>	<b>Norman Corrin</b>	<b>Steve Jenkins</b>	<b>Susan Jenkins</b>
	<b>Member</b>	<b>Mike Hyland</b>	<b>Mike Bowley</b>	<b>Beryl Bowley</b>
	<b>Member</b>	<b>Sara Feal</b>	<b>Sara Waldron</b>	<b>Terry Brown</b>
<b>(e)</b>	<b>Appointment of Committee Members to specific roles</b>			
	Terry said the committee member would remain in their current roles: Membership: Alan and Norman, Challenge Walk Co-coordinator: Mike Hyland, Social Walks: Sara Waldron, Merchandise: Peter Engledow, Website/Social Media: Gill Bunker, Local Groups Representative: Peter Engledow.			
	<b>Group Equipment:</b> Non-committee: Lynn Yorston has agreed to continue looking after the group's equipment.			
<b>(f)</b>	<b>Cheque Signatories/Electronic Payment Approval</b>			
	Peter Engledow, Terry Brown, Gill Bunker (unchanged). Two have to agree electronic payments			
	Terry thanked everyone who has been on the Committee during the last year which she said, again, had been quite a difficult one. She confirmed it will be both her own and Peter's fifth year as Officers and. ideally, we need to find replacements for this time next year. It was always healthy to have change and get a difference perspective.			
<b>5.</b>	<b>HEALTH AND SAFETY/INSURANCE ISSUES</b>			
<b>(a)</b>	Terry said there were no incidents to report.			
<b>(b)</b>	For the Shillington Shuffle we did review our hygiene practices to reduce the risk of Covid transmission – all entrants were reminded about things they could do to keep themselves and others safe, they had their hands sanitised before entering checkpoints and food was kept more to individually wrapped items.			
<b>(c)</b>	First aid course: Terry said the committee were planning to offer a first aid course. We have some information from Sue Clements (Norfolk & Suffolk group) who offers a first aid course aimed at event organisers and marshals. This will be discussed at the January committee meeting and taken forward.			
<b>6.</b>	<b>BBN CHALLENGE EVENTS</b>			

<b>(a)</b>	<b>Report of Completed Events (1st October 2020-30th September 2021)</b>
<b>(i)</b>	<b>Chiltern Anytime Kanter 2021 Roy Carter</b>
	See Report p.10-11. Terry said it had certainly been worthwhile running the CAK and she thanked Roy, Mike and Norman and all route checkers for enabling the event to take place.
<b>(ii)</b>	<b>Pick &amp; Mix Anytime 2021 Lynn &amp; Dave Yorston</b>
	See Report p.11. Terry said again, although there had not been a huge number of entries, it had been worthwhile putting on the event. She thanked Dave, Lynn and Mike and any route checkers.
	Terry said both Anytime events had helped to keep the group's momentum going during the pandemic and we had learned a lot from holding them.
<b>(b)</b>	<b>Events Update (after 1st October 2021)</b>
<b>(i)(a)</b>	<b>Shillington Shuffle 21st November 2021 Merrian Lancaster</b>
	Merrian said the event the previous weekend had been a huge success and a full report would follow.
	It was agreed that participants were grateful that things were getting back to normal and appreciative that there was an event they could take part in together.
	Numbers had been reduced from 300 to 200.
	Terry thanked the organisers and marshals for helping to make it such a successful event.
	Norman commented that approx 20 people had joined the BBN FB following the event, probably to see the many photos that had been shared.
<b>(i)(b)</b>	<b>Sundon Saunter 2022 David Sedgley</b>
	David outlined early plans for the event. There would be some route changes and a change of location for CP1; this would be Charlton Village Hall. The date of the event would be Sunday 20th November 2022.
	Dee Brockway said she liked the idea of giving priority to LDWA members when an event first opened and she hoped this would be considered for future events.
	Alan said he was doing this for the Hannington Hike.
	This was agreed to be an excellent idea.
<b>(ii)</b>	<b>Hannington Hike 6th March 2022 Alan Leadbetter</b>
	See Report p.11. Alan had nothing to add, other than to put out a plea for marshals.
<b>(iii)</b>	<b>Pick &amp; Mix 29th May 2022 Lynn &amp; Dave Yorston</b>
	See Report p.11. No further comments, other than Lynn and Dave confirmed they are continually monitoring the HS2 situation and may have to adapt or possibly lose one of the routes.
<b>(iv)</b>	<b>Future Chiltern Kanter</b>
	Roy could not be present but it was confirmed he will be organising the next event.
<b>(v)</b>	<b>Wendover Gap Anytime Challenge Lynn &amp; Dave Yorston</b>
	See Report p.11. It was agreed this will be left off future meeting agendas.
<b>(vi)</b>	<b>New BBN Triple (Hannington Hike, Chiltern Kanter, Pick &amp; Mix) Alan Leadbetter</b>
	See Report p.11-12. No further comments or questions
	Terry thanked all the organisers of the walks that had taken place and all those who were planning events to be held in the coming year.
<b>7.</b>	<b>LDWA HUNDREDS Mary Knight</b>
	(a) Trans-Pennine 2022 (b) Elephant, Bear & Bull 2023 (c) Speyside 2024 (d) East Point 2025 (e) Hunnypot 2026

	See Report p.12. No comments or questions
<b>8.</b>	<b>GROUP ACTIVITIES — WEEKENDS — SOCIAL EVENTS</b>
<b>(a)(i)</b>	<b>Eastbourne Trip 2021 Roy Carter</b>
	See Report p. 12. Terry thanked Roy in his absence for putting on a great BBN trip.
<b>(a)(ii)</b>	<b>Marsden Moors Weekend. David Findel-Hawkins</b>
	Dave confirmed the Marsden Moors challenge event was not on the 2022 challenge walk programme so a weekend next year was highly unlikely. There was a possibility that it could happen in the future if the event reappeared on the calendar
<b>(b)</b>	<b>LDWA 50th Anniversary events 2022</b>
	Terry confirmed that the Committee have discussed members' suggestions and agreed a possible lunch in the New Year, a linear walk along the Grand Union Canal – (Linslade to Stoke Bruerne, approx. 24 miles through the three counties), and holding the twice cancelled Midsummer Meanders.
	<b>Midsummer Meanders 18th June 2022 Sara Waldron</b>
	This would be BBN's event for the LDWA 50th Anniversary weekend of celebrations being held 18th/19th June 2022. The venue will be Woburn Village Hall with led walks of varying lengths for past and present members, food, games and a quiz.
<b>(c)</b>	<b>BBN 40th Anniversary events 2023</b>
	Terry said that again, the Committee have discussed suggestions - events are likely to include the Greensand Ridge Walk in a Day, the Milton Keynes Boundary Walk, the Northampton Round, a cream tea event and a quiz.
<b>9.</b>	<b>DONATIONS/PROJECTS – UPDATE</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>Greensand Ridge Walk Benches Roy Carter</b>
	See Report p.13. Peter confirmed we have not been asked for the money yet. Terry confirmed details will be circulated as soon as there is more news and the benches have been installed. There should be an opportunity to gain some publicity.
<b>(b)</b>	<b>North Bucks rRIPPLE Donate a Gate – Installation of a Kissing Gate at Stewkley Gill Bunker</b>
	See Report p.13. No comments.
<b>(c)</b>	<b>Ideas for future donations/projects</b>
<b>(i)</b>	Ed Kendrick suggested anything that improved paths north of the Chilterns. He will speak to Bill Piers of North Bucks rRIPPLE reference further support of their Donate a Gate scheme.
<b>(ii)</b>	David Sedgley said there were four dodgy stiles on the planned Sundon Saunter route. He will contact the Beds rRIPPLE team
<b>(iii)</b>	Terry asked that anyone who had any other ideas regarding a walking related charity to let the committee know.
<b>10.</b>	<b>A.O.B.</b>
	None
<b>11.</b>	<b>2022 AGM Date/Venue</b>
	Alan will organise the next AGM using Northhill Village Hall and The Crown p.h. opposite. The date will be Sunday 27th November 2022.
	Terry suggested a 2.30pm start for the AGM to allow time for the lunch beforehand.
	<b>The meeting closed at 3.40pm</b>

**LDWA : BEDS BUCKS NORTHANTS GROUP  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2021, 2PM, ELLESBOROUGH PARISH HALL**

**REPORTS**

**ITEM 3. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**(a) Chairman *Terry Brown***

I'm giving an overview of the Group's activities for our reporting year - 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021; more detailed reports have been written by those directly involved in various aspects of the Group's activities.

It's been another year where our activities were severely affected by the Covid pandemic and restrictions.

Your Committee – myself, Gill Bunker, Peter Engledow, Sara Waldron, Mary Knight, Alan Leadbetter, Roy Carter, Mike Hyland and Norman Corrin – met formally five times during the reporting year. We had a mix of full agenda and shorter 'catch-up meetings' to react quickly to changes brought about by the Covid pandemic restrictions. I'd like to thank them all for their excellent work in what turned out to be another challenging year. The Committee continued to meet virtually using Zoom even when we could have met in person because it was convenient and we had invested in a Zoom licence and it saved personal time and travel; we also thought it was an environmentally friendly thing to do!

At the 2020 November AGM (held on Zoom with 24 people attending) Gill took over from Peter Simon as Group Secretary and has done an amazing amount work - dealing with many more NEC emails than normal, continuing to produce the excellent weekly Update emails (including those jokes!) and organising the Committee and AGM meeting agendas and minutes. Gill also continues to look after the BBN website and Facebook page, again with lots more to do than usual, and produced three newsletters. Our grateful thanks to Gill for so willingly going the extra mile!

Social Walks – also at the AGM, Sara Waldron took over from Mary Knight as Social Walks Secretary. Despite this year being full of uncertainty and change, Sara has taken it all in her stride – well done and thank you.

Whilst the 'maximum 30 walkers' rule was in force the Committee recommended a maximum of 15 walkers on our Group walks to keep things safe and manageable which seemed to work well. By October 2020 we'd just got back into the Social Walks routine again, albeit still with restricted numbers, when we had to call a halt because of another Covid lockdown from 5th November to 2nd December. There was a brief resumption with a 'six walkers' limit until 16th January when all activities were totally suspended until 29th March when we could walk again but still with the 'maximum 30 walkers' rule in place. It wasn't until 19th July that number restrictions were finally lifted.

Many thanks to everyone who led a walk during the year, especially to those who led for the first time and those who had to cancel their walk, get to grips with Covid risk assessments and take bookings. Thanks to everyone who came out on a walk and complied without complaint with the things you were asked to do and not to do. Let's hope that things can continue to be more or less normal!

Challenge Events – because of Covid restrictions it wasn't possible to put on Challenge Walks as we would have liked. The Shillington Shuffle had to be postponed until November 2021 because we weren't able to arrange indoor checkpoints or provide food as normal. Commiserations to organisers Merrian Lancaster, Dave Findel-Hawkins, Dave and Lynn Yorston and Mike Hyland, the SiEntries contact, for the frustration of planning it all and having to cancel the 2020 walk. However, for the Chiltern Kanter and the Pick & Mix we decided to put them on as 'Anytime Challenge' Events, when it was obvious that we still wouldn't be able to hold them as 'normal' events. Several other Local Groups had done this and we thought it was better to offer something than nothing! These events could go ahead because they were totally unsupported, only open to LDWA members and not held on a specific day but completed within a designated period. In the case of the Chiltern Kanter this was between 7th March and 30th May with 71 entries and 55 reported completions; and for the Pick & Mix - between 24th May to 31st August with 32 entries and 20 completions. Thanks to the organisers for adapting everything to make these challenges possible - for the Chiltern Kanter: Roy Carter, Mike Hyland, Norman Corrin and for the Pick & Mix: Dave and Lynn Yorston, Mike and

Sandra Hyland - who also had to do some rerouting because of ongoing HS2 work. Thanks also to everyone who helped with route checking for these events.

There were 12 first recipients of BBN's new Triple Challenge badge for completing the pre-lockdown 2020 Hannington Hike and the 2021 Anytime Chiltern Kanter and Pick & Mix walks.

Other Group activities – our plans to attend the Marsden Moors challenge event as a group weekend and our Midsummer Meanders social walks day both had to be cancelled again. On a more positive note - many thanks to Roy Carter for organising another super Group holiday based in Eastbourne at the end of August. Like last year we were fortunate that Covid restrictions allowed this to take place, the trip was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all. We look forward to see what Roy has up his sleeve for a 2022 holiday!

Unfortunately, again it was impossible to hold the LDWA's Y 100 Sir Fynwy event and sadly it won't ever be put on now, but there was another 'Virtual 100 event' organised over the same weekend by the NEC where people could walk 100 miles over their own planned routes. Congratulations to all BBN members who took part and those who completed their challenge whatever the distance.

There were several other 'virtual' themed initiatives set up by the NEC to encourage members to get out walking, both during and after the lockdowns, and to share their stories with the wider LDWA community through social media; quite a few BBN members took part.

We held some of our own virtual events - Norman Corrin organised a Valentine's Venture in February and was also an excellent quiz master for both the Zoom quizzes held jointly with Essex and Herts Group.

Thanks also to Gill Bunker, Peter Engledow, and Jackie Burnett for organising and running the two quizzes.

Finances, donations and projects – thanks to Treasurer Peter Engledow for continuing to look after our finances so well. There's been limited financial activity this year because of the pandemic but we did make some donations following several member suggestions. The Committee agreed that any donations we make should be relevant to the activities of the Group/LDWA. We also agreed that in general, and to be fair to all, we wouldn't support any of the many specific charity requests made directly to us.

We hope that the ongoing Greensand Ridge Walk bench replacement project started nearly two years ago will be completed in the very near future.

Peter also looks after our Twitter account and the 'refreshed' Peco online BBN shop for Group badged clothing which is well worth a look!

Other responsibilities taken on by Committee members in the year were:

- Membership - Alan Leadbetter (who took this over from Dave Findel-Hawkins at last year's AGM) checks the LDWA membership list for new members in our Group area and Norman Corrin contacts each one to welcome them personally with a phone call and a letter. This is such an important job in establishing communication, thank you both.
- Challenge Walk Co-ordinator - Mike Hyland was doing this role before being elected to the Committee at last year's AGM. He's had a very busy year liaising with Challenge walk organisers, the SiEntries team and event entrants because of all the uncertainty and changes with our Challenge events. It's been invaluable having his knowledge at our meetings and making decisions has been easier. Thank you for all your efforts Mike.
- BBN's 100 event checkpoint organiser - Mary Knight continued to be our contact for specific Hundred event organisers. After two years of not having a checkpoint to run we're pleased to look forward to future events going ahead as planned where we expect to offer a BBN led checkpoint - thank you Mary.

Several members do 'little jobs' for the Group and this make such a difference in sharing the workload. At the risk of leaving someone out, I know of and thank:

- Lynn and Dave Yorston who keep our equipment list up to date and store a large proportion of it at their home.
- Dave Findel-Hawkins also stores some equipment and also acts as the initial point of contact for future Hundred events.
- Merrian Lancaster who remains a constant source of support, information and ideas.

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone who has taken an active part in the Group this year in any way, for your continued support and for attending the AGM.

**(b) Secretary Gill Bunker**

My first year in the job, and it has been a strange one with the continued curtailing in the early months of the one thing that we love to do – walking together. But there has been plenty to do, so briefly:

- Tuesday News: This has (hopefully) kept members updated throughout the year
- Emails from NEC: Circulated/responded to as necessary
- Next year’s LDWA50 Anniversary: Three recipes and photos submitted for the planned celebratory cookbook with thanks to Dave FH, Jim Robinson and Terry, and Margaret Skerman
- *Focus on BBN* article published August Strider, plus items from Norman Corrin (Cream Tea Walk) and Roy Carter (Hathersage Weekend) and there will be an item from Judy Nickerson in one of next year’s 50th anniversary Striders.

**(c) Treasurer Peter Engledow**

**2021 AGM REPORT**

The Accounts have been prepared for 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021. Total balance on bank is now £6295.12. There has been very little activity of course since the Covid restrictions came into force.

The accounts have been checked and found to be in order. They will be signed if approved by the AGM.

SI entries continues to be a very effective method of accepting event entries despite the rule changes last year. Overall, the staged payment to us has had little impact so far; this will be monitored though as more events are being staged.

Donations made during the year were;

Date	Detail - Donations	Account	Amount
19/04/20	Ramblers		£375.00
01/06/21	Thames Valley Air Amb		£207.00
26/07/21	Beds Walking Festival		£60.00

These were as expected and authorized by the committee.

Minor costs under Miscellaneous were;

Date	Detail - Miscellaneous	Account	Amount
12/11/20	Zoom Licence		£143.88
28/04/21	Triple Challenge Badges		£266.34

Any events during the year were run close to cost.

Given the healthy balance in the bank I do not feel that it is necessary to recommend the re-introduce the annual membership fee.

As always, suggestions for how we use our funds are always welcome by the committee.

Unless there are any questions, we now need a motion passed to accept the accounts so that they may be adopted.



**BEDS BUCKS AND NORTHANTS GROUP LDWA  
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE  
1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020 TO 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
MERCHANDISE	£79.20	
MISCELLANEOUS		
PICK N MIX	£164.97	£248.80
HH20		£2047.01
SS19		£1410.03
SS21	£405.00	
KANTER 21	£250.84	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£900.01</b>	<b>£3705.84</b>

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
PRINT & POST		£91.09
MERCHANDISE	£86.00	£60.00
EQUIPMENT		£820.72
DONATIONS	£642.00	£689.00
AGM		£310.00
MISCELLANEOUS	£410.22	£45.00
CHRISTMAS WALK		£15.21
SS19		£1968.89
HH20		£1230.11
KANTER 21	£373.68	
KANTER 20		£64.80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1511.90</b>	<b>£5294.82</b>

**SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)FOR YEAR** (€611.89)

The deficit reported reflects that we have little revenue in this period.

**(d) Membership *Alan Leadbetter***

I supply Norman Corrin (normally at beginning of each month) with details of any new BBN Primary members so he can welcome them to the group.

Membership at end of September: 460 Primary members, 367 Associate members.

**(e) Challenge Walk Co-ordinator *Mike Hyland***

Hannington Hike: - Flyer on website and in Strider, all ready to go live on SiEntries from 1st December 2021.

Pick and Mix:- Flyer on website and in Strider (Dec), will put in demo mode on SiEntries in January ready to go live on the 1st March 2022, ready for the event at the end of May 2022.

**(f) Social Walks *Sara Waldron***

The Social Walks programme got going on 12th April under LDWA's walks protocol. Walks were offered in all 3 Counties. Initially our walks were for 6-10 people. As confidence grew the numbers suggested by leaders increased to 12. Finally, restrictions were lifted and there was a noticeable and welcome increase in offers from leaders. No more booking a place – apart from some walks with reduced numbers due to restricted parking & difficulty in managing a large group in special circumstances (eg London Monopoly Walk).

We had 3 brand new walk leaders come forward – Liz Sheffield, Diane Baldwin & Tristan Denton. Many thanks to them for volunteering. Thanks also to the many regular leaders who brushed off their OS maps and did us proud.

Phil Hastings suggested to the committee that we initiate a series of shorter slower walks. This is an initiative which has been tried by other groups with good support. Its place in our calendar is not to replace full length walks but to offer an alternative for members who are recovering from injury or feeling less able to tackle a full 16-22 mile walk. The walks are also useful to give new members a try-out of a less

strenuous walk before they commit. We have welcomed members from Essex & Herts on these walks. Phil has led most of these walks, with Gill Bunker and Judy Nickerson also volunteering. The BBN entry in Strider will continue to spell out the basis of our walks and contact details but in the main walkers will be directed to the website for walks and directions. Leaders seem to appreciate not having to commit too far in advance. This may be just a temporary Covid phenomenon but it will be interesting to see what the next year holds.

Our thanks go to the following people who have led walks in this time period. Their expertise, time and effort are much appreciated:

Terry Brown	Sara Waldron	Dee Brockway	Therese Jamin
Phil Hastings	Christine Bramley	Nigel Schofield	Liz Sheffield
Peter Hamson	Diane Baldwin	Tristan Denton	Linda Marsh
Graham Busch	Neil Edmonds	John Davies	Anne Addison
Colin Stoneman	Norman Corrin	Gill Bunker	Roy Carter

#### **(h) Equipment *Lynn Yorston (non-Committee)***

As far as I have been informed, the equipment list is fully up to date and can be viewed on our website. I shall send Gill and Terry a new list after any updates are highlighted at this AGM. We shall be chatting about maybe reducing the volume of things that we keep.

The three weeks' notice of equipment being required seems to have worked. It is all kept in attics and we need that time to assemble and pack the goodies ready for collection.

The collection, cleaning and prompt return of all equipment is the responsibility of the event organiser. I am willing to still store the goodies as noted and shall continue co-ordinating the equipment list if the committee so wishes.

#### **(i) Website *Gill Bunker***

- Website kept updated with news, useful information and photos of group walks (these are currently chiefly copied from FB).
- Event information, route descriptions and results added for the two Anytime Challenges.
- The inputting of group walks for the LDWA website, including updating information, is now done by Sara.
- I need to re-start the collection of gpx files of group walks for the LDWA Walks Database.

#### **(j) Newsletter – *Gill Bunker***

- There have been three Newsletters this year – Spring (February), Summer (June), Autumn (October). All three were online only.
- There was a disappointing response to my appeals for contributions. This has made me wonder if the Newsletter is still relevant? I feel the Newsletter as a means of circulating information has for a long time been superseded by the weekly BBN emails and by social media. My main reason, though, for asking the question is the lack of contributions from the membership (and not just for the recent Autumn issue; this has been ongoing for some time).

### **ITEM 6. BBN CHALLENGE EVENTS**

#### **(a) Report of Completed Events (1st October 2020-30th September 2021)**

##### **(i) Chiltern Anytime Kanter 2021 *Roy Carter***

This was the 21st Chiltern Kanter but organised very differently in the form of an Anytime Challenge open from 12th April to 31st May, caused by Covid restrictions in obtaining halls as checkpoints, food sharing, social distancing and limitations on countrywide travel. Hence the event was entirely unsupported. There were no refreshments, no checkpoints and no marshals on any of the three routes available. Participants chose which day to walk and it was memorable because of the tales received from some who chose inclement weather when they reported “hanging on for grim death on top of Ivinghoe Beacon”, “traipsing through snow in the afternoon” and “blazing hot day finding Wigginton Community Cafe a blessing”. Not to forget those who got lost on the walk or decided to walk leisurely and have a meal. It was a triumph in the end and many thanked the organisers for a splendid walk.

The three routes were different from previous years and designed by new boy Roy alongside Kop hand Norman and bear grizzly Mike. All routes took in Aldbury before splitting onto Wigginton and returning to Pitstone to achieve 18 miles. The longer 26 mile route had an optional loop from Wigginton and shorter 13 mile route returned from Aldbury to finish at Pitstone.

Entrants posted their route times to SiEntries which updated the Leaderboard and had to send answers to the Kanter questions onto Mike who then forwarded them onto me. I had prepared a Certificate to fill out details to email entrants and also post a Chiltern Kanter badge if they requested one. Not all the questions were answered as expected.

Entrance Figures are as follows:

Route	Pre-entered	Withdrew	Non-Starters	Retirements	Total
Long	25		2		23
Medium	17		5		12
Short	29		9		20
Total	71		16		55

Finances are as follows:

Description	Income	Description	Expenditure	Profit / Loss
SiEntries	£250.84	300 x CK Badges	£277.20	
		Postage & Envelopes	£38.38	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£250.84</b>		<b>£315.58</b>	<b>-£64.74</b>

(50 badges were posted and we have 250 undated badges remaining for the Chiltern Kanter in 2023)

**(ii) Pick & Mix Anytime 2021 Lynn & Dave Yorston**

We used all the previous routes and only had to make a couple of minor changes like stiles to kissing gates as usual. The main route amendments were the risk assessment for Covid-19 and for the massive mess made by HS2.

Well done to Chris Leigh who covered the furthest distance by completing 5 loops covering 30 miles in total. In total 20 walkers covered a total of 326 miles in 38 loops. A full list of results is on our website

**(b) Events Update (after 1st October 2021)**

**(ii) Hannington Hike 6th March 2022 Alan Leadbetter**

The next Hannington Hike will take place on Sunday 6th March from the Old Grammarians Sportsfield, Sywell Road, Wellingborough, with a Marshals' walk on 13th February. All the halls are booked.

Entries will open to LDWA member from 1st December 2021 Entries will be open to non-member from 1st January 2022 with a limit of 250. Entry fees are £8 LDWA members and £12 to non-members. The routes will be the same as 2019.

I am looking for about 20 marshals to help out on the day. If you would like to help out email me at [acleadbetter64@gmail.com](mailto:acleadbetter64@gmail.com).

**(iii) Pick & Mix 29th May 2022 Lynn & Dave Yorston**

We have booked the Great Missenden C of E School for 29th May 2022. The main format will be the same as before the lockdowns but we will try to have the majority of the HQ activities outdoors under cover. The school has had some building works done and we shall have to work round those. The routes will be very similar to previous times. We will send updates as they become clear.

**(v) Wendover Gap – BBN Anytime Challenge Lynn & Dave Yorston**

We cannot hold this event as the HS2 disruption is far too extensive at the moment.

**(vi) New BBN Triple (Hannington Hike, Chiltern Kanter, Pick and Mix) Alan Leadbetter**

12 badges and certificates have been sent out to those who have completed all three events, 7 people are eligible for their triple if they complete the next Hannington Hike in March 2022. 12 people will be eligible if they do the next Pick and Mix in 2022.

### **Hannington Hike 2022**

Brown Teresa  
Busch Graham  
Davis Gerald  
Jenkins Steven  
Keech Paul  
Telfer Diana  
Vidler Philip

### **Pick And Mix 2022**

Barnard Lesley	Foot Susan
Boakye Christopher	Hodges Sandra
Brockway Dee	Neat Adam
Carpenter Andy	Neat Anjane
Carter Roy	Oxley David
Davis Emma	Porter Andrew

### **ITEM 7. LDWA HUNDREDS *Mary Knight***

2022 will see the first LDWA 100 take place since 2019. The Trans-Pennine 100 hosted by Vermuyden, the South Yorkshire Group of the LDWA, will be taking place from Friday 3rd June until Sunday 5th June 2022. BBN will be looking after Checkpoint 2 at Penistone which is 12 miles along the route. We will be open on Friday 3rd June at 11.15am until 15.54pm.

2023 – Elephant Bear and Bull 100 based in Coventry, Warwickshire and Birmingham. The event will be hosted by a committee made up from a number of local groups. BBN have been allocated CP2.

2024 – The Speyside 100, hosted by North of Scotland Group and based in Inverness/Moray area. BBN have requested a checkpoint at around the 20 mile point.

2025 – East Point 100, hosted by Norfolk and Suffolk. Again BBN have requested a checkpoint at around the 20 mile point.

2026 – Hunnypot 100, hosted by Kent.

### **ITEM 8. GROUP ACTIVITIES — WEEKENDS — SOCIAL EVENTS**

#### **(a) Eastbourne Trip 2021 *Roy Carter***

This year's BBN holiday weekend in August was enjoyed by 13 LDWA members who booked into the Queens hotel opposite the pier in Eastbourne. It was as advertised, the UK's sunniest place and just what we needed after 18 months of restricted lifestyle in eating, drinking and socialising together.

There were interesting pubs and cosy cafes in picturesque villages, sunshine and ice cream on the cliffs and refreshments by castle ruins. All walks over the 4 days had distance, interesting locations, changes in route where necessary and enjoyable struggles in getting back for an evening meal at 6pm.

Friday afternoon we walked through Sovereign Harbour, Europe's largest marina complex boasting 4 linked harbours and onto Pevensey Castle for a welcomed break before returning back to Eastbourne. It had an unscheduled train ride and laughter at the ticket machine to get back in time for dinner.

Saturday involved walking up onto Beachy Head and down to Birling Gap where we had an impromptu fly-by from 2 Spitfires. Then along the Seven Sisters on a lovely sunny morning to reach the Cuckmere Inn for lunch. We stopped to identify each sister plus the new one. The return was through West and East Dean and a quick stop at the Tiger Inn before coming back down through Eastbourne to the pier.

Sunday saw us walk to Alfriston where a dog show and village fete were taking place. We captured the attention of a local 80 year old accordion player who just knew our group would jig and sing along to his music and of course we obliged. The return passed the Long Man of Wilmington and most of the group were suitably impressed with the exception of one, who confused the figure with the appendages offered on the Cerne Giant. No such disappointment in the evening when twisting to a Beatles tribute band on the seafront with fireworks that followed afterwards.

Monday we met at Glynde station to walk up onto Firls Beacon and along the South Downs escarpment to Southease for lunch at the YHA there. Then alongside the River Ouse to Lewes where some departed by train to Glynde and others stopped for coffee before walking back to Glynde and home.

There were lots more memorable moments and I thank everyone for making it such a perfect holiday atmosphere at the seaside.

## **ITEM 9. DONATIONS/PROJECTS – UPDATE**

### **(a) Greensand Ridge Walk Benches *Roy Carter***

As part of the Greensand Country Landscape Partnership, the Greensand Trust have secured funding from Central Beds Council, the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Long Distance Walking Association to replace the 6 benches along the Greensand Ridge Walk between Leighton Buzzard and Gamlingay. These benches have now largely fallen into disrepair and require replacement – the aim is to replace the existing six benches and potentially add a further two.

The benches are simple, backless timber benches using sustainably sourced UK hardwood timber.

The dimensions are:

Height (ground to top of seat, once installed): 500mm. Bench top dimensions: 1800mm x 300mm (min) The benches will be sufficiently robust and require minimal maintenance. They will need to last for a minimum of 10 years under normal use and with minimal maintenance.

The total installation cost of the project is £4,000 and Beds, Bucks & Northants funding £1000 towards it. Each bench will have the Greensand Country heart logo carved into it to acknowledge their contribution with the Long Distance Walkers Association logo carved onto the opposite corner of the bench. A plaque will be inset to provide a bit more context.

Worded “This bench is installed on the Greensand Ridge Walk and is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund through the Greensand Country Landscape Partnership and the Long Distance Walkers Association”.

### **(b) North Bucks rRIPPLE Donate a Gate – Installation of a Kissing Gate at Stewkley *Gill Bunker***

Earlier this year BBN made a donation of £375 to North Bucks rRIPPLE for the installation of a kissing gate and plaque near Stewkley (ramblers Repairing & Improving Public Paths for Leisure & Exercise). The rRIPPLE team completed the work in June. A brief report and photos were included in the Summer Newsletter.