

East Lancashire LDWA Group Annual General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 7pm

Venue: The Doffcocker Inn, Chorley Old Road, Bolton, BL1 5QD

Guest Speaker: The meeting opened at with a guest speaker from the Rivington Heritage Trust. Graham gave an enjoyable presentation on the history of Rivington Gardens.

1 Present:

Pauline Melia	Chair
Jeanette Banks	Secretary
Paul Allen	Treasurer
Vivien Lee	Social Secretary
Caroline Tennant	Events Secretary
Nick Halford	Walks Secretary
Alma Walsh	Ordinary Committee Member
Dave Walsh	Ordinary Committee Member
Paul Banks	Ordinary Committee Member
Gordon Stone	Ordinary Committee Member
Stephen Hindley	East Lancs LDWA Member
Steve Clark	East Lancs LDWA Member
Sue Boardman	East Lancs LDWA Member
John Gillatt	East Lancs LDWA Member
Phil Chapman	East Lancs LDWA Member
Paul Raine	East Lancs LDWA Member
Barbara Shelton	East Lancs LDWA Member
John Short	East Lancs LDWA Member

Apologies:

Hilary Scott	IT Secretary
Roger Jackson	Ordinary Committee Member

East Lancashire LDWA AGM – 7th November 2023

'First of all, doesn't time fly when you are having fun! Twelve months have been and gone and here we are looking back on another eventful year. It certainly was a busy year in a variety of ways. So, it is difficult to know where to begin.

Let's start with the East Lancs LDWA 40th anniversary celebrations. East Lancs celebrated their 40th anniversary by holding two walks. The Edenfield Round in February and the Spanners Round in May. Thanks to Roger and Steve for leading these walks and for thanks to those who came together to mark a significant milestone in the history of the group.

The Two Crosses - I had a different "roving" role on the 2XS this year, that allowed me to experience the event at a number of different venues – the start line, HQ, checkpoints. It made me really appreciate what a great day it is, how much work is involved and how much everyone enjoys it (volunteers and entrants alike, including very happy dogs). There were so many smiling faces wherever I went. It continues to be a very popular challenge for both walkers and runners and its success is recognition of all the hard work in preparation and on the day. So well done everyone (especially those who had a full day's shift in the kitchen) and thank you to our Events Secretary Caz for a job well done.

Social events. Yet again the East Lancs social calendar was full, with our ever popular annual events and some unique events for this year. A highlight was the 100/2XS party when we were kindly invited to join Paul Allen at his special birthday celebrations. I unfortunately could not be there but I heard a great night was had by all. We also enjoyed a long weekend in Hathersage that was a great success (thanks to Viv Lee and Roger for organising and Roger, Viv P. and Steve B. for leading walks). And once again some members joined West Lancs on their holiday breaks.

At our Peel Tower fund raising event I helped sell refreshments and again, having a different perspective this year allowed me to appreciate how much pleasure this brings to those that pop in for a brew or a sweet treat. Oh, and those that take part in the walk of course! A great day for all involved and in support of two fabulous charities. Thanks to our Social Secretary Viv for everything she does throughout the year.

Walks programme and leaders. We've had some fantastic walks this year, local and not so local. So to everyone who attended walks, your company was truly appreciated. For those that led walks, a heartfelt thank you. Without walkleaders there would be no walks and without walks there would be no East Lancs. We are very fortunate to have a small number of regular walk leaders (a call out here to Dave, Alma, Paul, Jeanette, Roger, Hilary, Steve). Without them, the walks schedule would be significantly reduced. So, please, if you haven't led a walk in a while,

please consider doing so. If you haven't led a walk before, why not try it – there are plenty of folk within the group who can help youand you may just enjoy it! Thanks to our Walks Secretary for his work throughout the year.

The 100 *Special mention to those who manned the breakfast stop on the 100. Despite the small venue and organisational challenges, East Lancs pulled it off again, ensuring that everyone was fed, watered, patched up and sent on their way, refreshed for the rest of the route. We celebrated the endeavours of our members who completed the route, some of them first timers – well done once again and I'm sure the toenails will come back eventually.*

Local Groups Weekend *Jeanette and I attended the LGW last November and took part in really interesting and beneficial discussions on the future of local groups and how groups can learn from each other. It was pleasing to see that East Lancs is seen as a well run group. Our use of MeetUp to generate new members was recognised by the NEC, so thanks to Nick for all his efforts in this respect.*

Finances *Yet again our Treasurer has done a fine job this year managing our finances. We did manage to spend some money again this year and made donations to organisations close to our hearts. We were successful in applying to the NEC for monies from the Martyn Greaves bequest fund and this was used wisely for improvements on the 2XS route, which were reported in Strider and in the Bury Times – fantastic publicity for the group.*

It is important that tonight we recognise the fantastic contribution that Paul Allan has made to East Lancs. This was recognised and celebrated earlier in the year at Paul's birthday party but tonight, as he steps down from his role, I'd like to say once again, a big thank you from East Lancs members old and new.

IT *Our website and social media presence has been very well administered by our IT Secretary. I often read the walk reports and it is great to see the photos from each walk. Once again a job well done.*

Secretary *I'd like to thank our Secretary for a successful 12 months. There is always plenty happening and Jeanette has been very busy ensuring that the communications are informative and timely and generally keeping the group's administration in good order.*

Departed friends *Finally, this year we've said goodbye to much loved members of the East Lancs family. When such sad events occur it reminds you that the LDWA is more than a walking organisation. It is a community where friendships grow and where happy memories are made. So tonight, we should remember those we have lost during the year and give thanks for the good times we shared.'*

Treasurer's Report***'TREASURER'S REPORT - 2022/2023 ACCOUNTS - KEY POINTS***

Introduction *It has been another successful year for the Group and I am glad to be able to report, as my last duty as Treasurer after some 40 years, that the Group remains in a healthy financial position.*

Savings Account *Looking at the Savings Account in general terms, we see the usual monies coming in for accommodation bookings (but this money goes out when we pay for the accommodation and this year this includes the EBB Midlands 100, Hathersage trip, Ghyll Head and deposits for next year's Scottish 100). The spreadsheets I keep on accommodation monies show the breakdown of monies received and payments made. The essential point is that at the present time we have £586 in our Savings Account held against accommodation bookings.*

In addition to accommodation payments, we have significant income from the Two Crosses Event (see SI Entries items), we have two amounts coming in from surpluses generated by recent 100 events (which goes out to people helping on these events) and in the middle of the year the Savings Account received a payment of £3,000 from the LDWA NEC as a grant towards further footpath works on the Two Crosses route.

In conclusion, therefore, it can be seen that the end of year balance in the Savings Account is £8,781.30. If we deduct monies held against accommodation, this leaves the Group with £8,195.30 of its own money in this account. Against this figure it should be borne in mind that the £3,000 NEC grant is committed to further works on the Two Crosses route but still shows the Group in a healthy position.

All the outgoings from the Savings Account are shown as transfers to the Current Account where actual expenditure details are recorded.

Current Account *Now, looking at the Current Account, this is the main account setting out the general expenditure of the Group.*

Looking through the expenditure we can see payments going out for various costs incurred by the Group and its members – so we see costs associated with buying equipment and supplies for the Two Crosses event, general Group costs and meeting expenses, Christmas Cracker costs, accommodation payments (including Ghyll Head (both last year and this year), the EBB Midlands 100, the Hathersage trip and deposits for the Scottish 100 next year).

There are also various payments including East Lancs banners, Tshirts, 100 party expenses, donations, refund payments, 100 surplus payments, storage costs and walk leader expenses. Two payments, totaling £1,500, have been made to the Redisher

Woods projects during the year. Also, it should be noted that one cheque for £20 remains outstanding from June and will soon be expired if not cashed.

In conclusion, therefore, our Current Account shows a year end balance of £595.69.

Summary and Conclusions So, looking at the Summary Statement, we can see that the Group's accounts show funds for the year 2022/23 standing at £9,376.99 in total, a significant increase on the previous year total of £7,460.32. This figure continues to represent a very healthy balance. If the monies held against accommodation bookings (£586) are removed, we can see that the Group currently holds funds of its own totalling £8,790.99.

However, as mentioned earlier, it should be noted that the above figure of £8,790.99 includes the grant contribution from the LDWA NEC of £3,000 which is committed to further footpath works along the Two Crosses route. Also, the surplus of £500 received from the EBB Midlands 100 remains to be distributed to members who helped on the event.'

Please see Appendix 1 for Financial Statement

Walk's Secretary Report:

'This year we have had 32 midweek walks, average attendance 11, and 32 weekend walks, average attendance 15, giving a total of 64 walks, averaging 13 walkers, just slightly down from last year's 69 walks averaging 14 walkers.

The best attended walk of the year was Roger's Christmas Cracker, with 27 walkers, thank you Roger.

The annual award to the leader inflicting us with the worst weather goes to Phil Chapman, for January's Winter Hill on Ice fiasco, which at least he cut short before any actual bodily harm occurred.

We had 25 walk leaders or teams, but the year's Champion Walk Leaders with an incredible 9 walks were Paul & Jeanette, with special mention also to Hilary, Dave, and Alma for being not far behind.

We have continued to advertise our walks on Meetup, with the intention of attracting new members to the club without being overwhelmed, and as Walk Sec I think this has gone well.

The highlight of the walking year for me was Paul and Jeanette's Ribble Valley Jubilee Trail series, which had everything we want, superb countryside walking with distance

and ascent, and this leads me nicely to say please look at Future Events on the website with your diary to hand, because already listed is what might be the highlight of next year, Paul and Jeanette's Pendle Way series.

Lastly a huge thank you from me to all the walk leaders, it can't be said often enough.

Nick'

Event's Secretary Report

'Two Crosses in 2023 saw 235 entrants complete the event, feedback from the entrants was very positive. The group made a profit of £2055.83. The success of the two crosses each year is entirely down to the efforts of all our volunteers. Thank you to everyone who gets involved in supporting the group by helping out.

Plans are in progress for next year's event on 17th March. Route improvements have taken place which benefit us, paving of the section across Wet Moss and also 3 new kissing gates, paid for by funding from the NEC.

Entries this time last year - 69. Today we have 84. This goes against the SI trend for later entries, which is great.'

IT Secretary Report

'IT Secretary Report. East Lancs LDWA. AGM. 7.11.23.

It has been a steady year on the IT front. There is still no movement on the new website so the existing one continues to offer challenges at times.

Thank you to all the walk leaders who took the time to write a report and to those who sent pictures as well. Although it is hard to be sure what the hit rate is on the website I know from people's comments that these are looked at.

FaceBook too continues to raise our profile. We do have 582 followers and some regular commenters/likers on the posts. FaceBook is particularly good at increasing entries for the Two Crosses event. A post always brings a flurry of entries.

Hilary Scott'

Social Secretary Report

'2022/2023 another year of successful social trips away, so thanks to all who attended the trips and led walks on the trips, making East Lancs LDWA group very go-ahead and vibrant.

I have been grateful for the distraction of planning these trips whilst I have not been able to walk, they have kept me in contact thin the group. In particular having the additional residential trip to Hathersage, which was quite a mixed group of LDWA walkers, was an interesting planning exercise. Shame about the weather that weekend. The success of that trip has triggered the Patterdale Hotel trip next year, which is proving very popular.

If you combine the East Lancs trips with West Lancs Karen and Ian Wardle's 2 coastal paths trips each year, there is plenty for walkers of all abilities to access.

I would really like to thank all members who manned the Kenilworth breakfast 100 checkpoint this last May. Dealing with the problems prior to the event, I doubted if East Lancs would pull off the usual high standard we try to five the 100 entrants and when faced with the limitations of the checkpoint I reality I believed it would be a disaster. But as always East Lancs checkpoint members rose to the challenge (despite blown electrics, none operable calor cooker on the lawn, and food shortages) the entrants thought we did great.

Other successes have been the building and repair of the Redisher Woods steps, bridge and signage, resulting in two articles in the Bury Times and one in Strider. Our successful bid for Martin Greaves legacy fund monies will be utilised to replace damaged old stiles with new gates on the Two Crosses Challenge Event route.

And with the Two Crosses looming, the planning of food provision and equipment distribution is only round the corner, so let's hope we have another great event.

So, as always, East Lancs have contributed financially to local economies and improved and made safe footpaths that the general public and members will appreciate. East Lancs can be proud of what we achieved in the name of the LDWA'

4 Election of Officers

The following officers have confirmed that they would like to stand for re-election:
Chair – Pauline Melia

Secretary – Jeanette Banks

Walk's Secretary – Nick Halford

Event's Secretary – Caroline Tennant

IT Secretary – Hilary Scott

Social Secretary – Viv Lee

Ordinary Committee Members: Paul Banks, Gordon Stone, Dave Walsh, Roger Jackson

Treasurer – Paul Allen is standing down from the role of Treasurer. Alma Walsh, currently Ordinary Committee Member, has put herself forward for the role of Treasurer, and was proposed by Roger Jackson and seconded by Pauline Melia.

Vacant Ordinary Committee Member role: Steve Clark put himself forward at the AGM for the role of Ordinary Committee Member. The nomination was proposed by Caroline Tennant and seconded by Alma Walsh.

The East Lancashire LDWA Committee for 2023-24 will be as follows:

Pauline Melia	Chair
Jeanette Banks	Secretary
Alma Walsh	Treasurer
Hilary Scott	IT Secretary
Vivien Lee	Social Secretary
Caroline Tennant	Events Secretary
Nick Halford	Walks Secretary
Steve Clark	Ordinary Committee Member
Dave Walsh	Ordinary Committee Member
Paul Banks	Ordinary Committee Member
Gordon Stone	Ordinary Committee Member
Roger Jackson	Ordinary Committee Member

5 **Any Other Business (AGM relevant only)**

None

6 **AGM closed - 9.50pm**

7 Normal Group Business

Date of next group Meeting – Tuesday 9th January 7pm, Doffcocker Inn

8 Any Other Business

Paul Banks raised a concern that he had read in Facebook that the Scottish 100 route had been removed from the 100 LDWA page and that the start venue and breakfast stop venue had changed. Viv was already aware of this and was receiving regular updates.

Local Group Meeting for 2024 – Viv and Roger had met with the Anderton Centre and established proposed menus, accommodation, costs for a LGM to be held there and hosted by East Lancs LDWA. Other members have expressed that they would be willing to lead walks for the weekend and offer support. It was a unanimous agreement of the meeting that East Lancs would offer to host the 2024 LGM.

Action: Jeanette, Paul Banks and Gordon to discuss with relevant NEC committee members this coming weekend during the Local Groups Meeting.

Meeting closed – 10.10pm

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2022 – 2023		SAVINGS ACCOUNT		
DATE	PARTICULARS	OUTGOINGS	INCOME	BALANCE
Nov 2022	Balance brought forward			£ 7,037.05
18-Nov-22	Income - SI - Two Crosses Event		£ 111.50	£ 7,148.55
16-Dec-22	Income - SI - Two Crosses Event		£ 187.00	£ 7,335.55
9-Jan-23	Transfer to current account	£ 2,000.00		£ 5,335.55
17-Jan-23	Income - Trans-Pennine 100 surplus		£ 300.00	£ 5,635.55
19-Jan-23	Transfer to current account	£ 1,000.00		£ 4,635.55
20-Jan-23	Income - SI - Two Crosses Event		£ 361.50	£ 4,997.05
23-Jan-23	Income - EBB 100 accomm		£ 1,790.00	£ 6,787.05
17-Feb-23	Income - SI - Two Crosses Event		£ 1,318.25	£ 8,105.30
20-Feb-23	Income - EBB 100 accomm		£ 195.00	£ 8,300.30
23-Feb-23	Income - EBB 100 accomm		£ 1,660.00	£ 9,960.30
17-Mar-23	Income - SI - Two Crosses Event		£ 1,471.00	£ 11,431.30
17-Mar-23	Transfer to current account	£ 7,500.00		£ 3,931.30
30-Mar-23	Income - Hathersage + 100 accomm.		£ 1,235.00	£ 5,166.30
5-Apr-23	Income - Hathersage +Scottish 100 accomm.		£ 540.00	£ 5,706.30
5-Apr-23	Income B/T - Scottish 100 accomm		£ 100.00	£ 5,806.30
17-Apr-23	Income B/T - Hathersage		£ 90.00	£ 5,896.30
2-Jun-23	Income - Scottish 100 accomm		£ 350.00	£ 6,246.30
5-Jun-23	Income - LDWA NEC Grant		£ 3,000.00	£ 9,246.30
7-Jun-23	Transfer to current account	£ 500.00		£ 8,746.30
27-Jun-23	Income - EBB 100 surplus		£ 500.00	£ 9,246.30
10-Jul-23	Income - Hathersage		£ 360.00	£ 9,606.30
8-Aug-23	Income - Hathersage top-up payments		£ 180.00	£ 9,786.30
14-Aug-23	Income B/T - Ghyll Head		£ 260.00	£ 10,046.30
16-Aug-23	Income - Ghyll Head		£ 780.00	£ 10,826.30
24-Aug-23	Transfer to current account	£ 3,000.00		£ 7,826.30
4-Oct-23	Income - Ghyll Head		£ 520.00	£ 8,346.30
16-Oct-23	Income - Ghyll Head		£ 305.00	£ 8,651.30
30-Oct-23	Income - Ghyll Head		£ 130.00	£ 8,781.30
	Movement	£ 14,000.00	£ 15,744.25	
Nov 2023	Balance to be carried forward			£ 8,781.30

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2022 – 2023		CURRENT ACCOUNT		
DATE	PARTICULARS	OUTGOINGS	INCOME	BALANCE
Nov 2022	Balance brought forward			£ 423.27
8-Nov-22	H. Scott - AGM expenses + ICE tags	£ 40.37		£ 382.90
8-Nov-22	Walk leader expenses	£ 50.79		£ 332.11
9-Jan-23	Transfer from Savings Account		£ 2,000.00	£ 2,332.11
10-Jan-23	GLL - Ghyll Head 2022 - 2nd payment	£ 777.60		£ 1,554.51
10-Jan-23	V. Lee - Two Crosses supplies	£ 300.00		£ 1,254.51
10-Jan-23	G. Stone - East Lancs banners	£ 49.98		£ 1,204.53

10-Jan-23	D. Walsh - Christmas Cracker subsidy	£ 120.00		£ 1,084.53
10-Jan-23	C. Tennant - Two Crosses supplies	£ 400.00		£ 684.53
10-Jan-23	J. Banks - Meeting expenses	£ 20.00		£ 664.53
12-Jan-23	J.A. Clark - Donation Air Ambulance + MND	£ 100.00		£ 564.53
19-Jan-23	Transfer from Savings Account		£ 1,000.00	£ 1,564.53
19-Jan-23	Bury Council - Redisher Woods path	£ 600.00		£ 964.53
19-Jan-23	P. Melia -Group T-shirts	£ 212.36		£ 752.17
31-Jan-23	R.P. Kelly - Refund - Midlands 100 deposit	£ 50.00		£ 702.17
4-Feb-23	V. Lee - Two Crosses supplies	£ 300.00		£ 402.17
27-Feb-23	V. Lee - Two Crosses exp's + equipment	£ 210.00		£ 192.17
17-Mar-23	Transfer from Savings Account		£ 7,500.00	£ 7,692.17
17-Mar-23	Knightcote Farm Cottages - 100 accomm.	£ 1,205.00		£ 6,487.17
17-Mar-23	Arbor Holiday Cottages - 100 accomm.	£ 3,231.00		£ 3,256.17
17-Mar-23	Notts County Council - Hathersage accomm.	£ 1,800.00		£ 1,456.17
17-Mar-23	NW Air Ambulance - Donation (I. Hamilton)	£ 100.00		£ 1,356.17
4-Apr-23	C. Tennant - Two Crosses exp's	£ 383.65		£ 972.52
4-Apr-23	P. Banks - Meeting expenses	£ 40.00		£ 932.52
26-Apr-23	Bury Council - Redisher Woods bridge	£ 900.00		£ 32.52
7-Jun-23	Transfer from Savings Account		£ 500.00	£ 532.52
7-Jun-23	D. Walsh - Equipment - pans	£ 67.98		£ 464.54
7-Jun-23	P. Banks - Meeting expenses	£ 20.00		£ 444.54
17-Jun-23	R. Radford - 100 expenses	£ 20.00		£ 424.54
17-Jun-23	**** P. Chapman - 100 expenses	£ 20.00		£ 404.54
17-Jun-23	D. & A. Walsh - 100 expenses	£ 40.00		£ 364.54
17-Jun-23	H. & C. Scott - 100 expenses	£ 40.00		£ 324.54
17-Jun-23	S. Clark + S. Boardman - 100 expenses	£ 40.00		£ 284.54
17-Jun-23	S. Gilleard - 100 expenses	£ 20.00		£ 264.54
17-Jun-23	N. Smith - 100 expenses	£ 20.00		£ 244.54
17-Jun-23	S. Robinson - 100 expenses	£ 20.00		£ 224.54
17-Jun-23	J. Holland - 100 expenses	£ 20.00		£ 204.54
17-Jun-23	J. Banks - 100 expenses	£ 20.00		£ 184.54
17-Jun-23	I. Connell - 100 expenses	£ 20.00		£ 164.54
17-Jun-23	V. Lee - 100 expenses	£ 20.00		£ 144.54
3-Jul-23	V. Lee - 100 party expenses	£ 118.00		£ 26.54
24-Aug-23	Transfer from Savings Account		£ 3,000.00	£ 3,026.54
24-Aug-23	St. Margaret's Church - Storage	£ 160.00		£ 2,866.54
24-Aug-23	B/T - LDWA Groups Weekend	£ 150.00		£ 2,716.54
9-Oct-23	B/T - Walk leader expenses	£ 98.10		£ 2,618.44
9-Oct-23	B/T - Walk leader expenses	£ 55.35		£ 2,563.09
9-Oct-23	B/T - Walk leader expenses	£ 23.40		£ 2,539.69
12-Oct-23	GLL - Ghyll Head 2023 - 1st payment	£ 1,944.00		£ 595.69
****	Cheque not cashed.			
	Movement	£ 13,827.58	£ 14,000.00	
Nov 2023	Balance to be carried forward			£ 595.69