



### From the Chairman

### Ralph Warman



#### A warm welcome to all new and existing members.

Welcome to number two of the West Yorkshire Wandering newsletter, your quarterly insight into what is going on with your group. If you have any reports, interesting stories etc please send them to [westyorks.secretary@ldwa.org.uk](mailto:westyorks.secretary@ldwa.org.uk) for inclusion in the newsletter.

As I am sat here typing away, we have been having some tremendous spring sun shine, which certainly make you feel upbeat with all that is happening in the world.

We have a packed edition for you, so enjoy.

#### Trans-Pennine 100

Congratulation to those who took part in the Marshall walk over the May Day Bank Holiday, and to the sweepers and checkpoint marshals who give their time to support this tremendous event.

And all the very best to the all the entries on the main event in early June.

#### Social Walks

From the beginning of 2022 up to the start of May 22 the West Yorkshire Group have held 12 social walks with 242 walkers taking part, covering 266 mile's. A big thanks to all our walks leaders, without these guys we wouldn't be able to enjoy our local area. There has been a couple of character-building walks with the weather throwing its worst at the walkers, but there have been also some brilliant days, where T-Shirts and Shorts have been the order of the day.

##### Up and coming Social Walks

- 7<sup>th</sup> May 22, Fountains Fell and Malham Tarn, 08:00 start, 32 miles
- 14<sup>th</sup> May 22, The Vicinalis Walk, 08:00 start, 31 miles
- 19<sup>th</sup> May 22, Final Stretch Before The 100, 08:00 start, 36 miles
- 21<sup>st</sup> May 22, Almscliffe Amble, 08:00 start, 30 miles
- 9<sup>th</sup> June 22, Anne Lister History Walk, 10:00 start, 6 miles
- 30<sup>th</sup> June 22, Lancastrian Schoolroom, 08:00 start, 22 miles.
- 9<sup>th</sup> July 22, Hebden Bridge Summer Meander, 08:00 start, 30 miles.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> July 22, Dent and Whernside, 08:00 start, 28 miles
- 30<sup>th</sup> July 22, Saltaire to Skipton, 08:00 start, 21 miles
- 6<sup>th</sup> Aug 22, Wardle We Wander, 08:30 start, 25 miles
- 13<sup>th</sup> Aug 22, Skipton to Saltaire, 08:30 start, 20 miles
- 20<sup>th</sup> Aug 22, Threshfield Moor, 08:30 start, 24 miles
- 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> Aug 22, Weekend Away, Fylingdale

As you can see, we have a very busy social walks calendar. If you haven't been on a social walk before, I am sure you will enjoy the scenery, company and give you a sense of achievement, so why don't you give it a go?

## **Celebrating 50 years of the LDWA**

The first event to celebrate this special year was held over the weekend of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April, a joint walk with North Yorkshire, following all 57 miles of the Nidderdale Way, over the weekend 30 walkers took part on Saturday and 25 on the Sunday, with certificates for those who managed both days.

The next events to take place to keep the celebration going are: -

**Sun 22nd May 2022**

### **Treasure Hunt in the Park**

Setting off in families or with friends from 10:00 in Shibden Park (nearest postcode HX3 6XG). You and your family are invited to take part in a family treasure hunt around the grounds of Shibden Park and the surrounding area. There are 2 options, a 4-mile treasure hunt, and for those more adventurous there is a 9-mile treasure hunt. Everybody is welcome to take part

Please register your interest with [chris.burrell1959@outlook.com](mailto:chris.burrell1959@outlook.com) If you wish to join us

**Sat 18th Jun 2022**

### **WY LDWA Celebration 50k Walk**

Group Walk - 08:00 Bingley Train Station - BD16 2NA. (GR SE108391). You are invited to take part in celebrating 50 years of the LDWA. To mark the memorable occasion, we are holding a 50k social walk starting and finishing in Bingley. Followed by a celebration meal and drinks in the Brown Cow, Bingley. We will have a mid-morning break; lunch break and a cafe stop in the afternoon before the grand finish back at the Brown Cow. If you can, please register your interest with [chris.burrell1959@outlook.com](mailto:chris.burrell1959@outlook.com) If you wish to join us for a meal, please confirm your interest by 31 May 2022 (so the relevant arrangements can be made)

**Sat 2nd Jul 2022**

### **Ulfkil Stride 2022 Challenge**

Challenge Event - 24ml. in 10 hours. Starting from farmer Schofield's field on the edge of Buckden Village, North Yorkshire (GR SD943768). The route encircles Upper Wharfedale and includes Cray, Yockenthwaite, Horse Head, Halton Gill, Foxup, Pen-y-Ghent, Litton before heading back to Buckden

**Online Entry**

[https://www.sientries.co.uk/event.php?elid=Y&event\\_id=9320](https://www.sientries.co.uk/event.php?elid=Y&event_id=9320)

**Sat 10th Sep 2022**

### **One Foot in the Gargrave**

Challenge Event - 23ml. 9 hours. From Gargrave Village Hall, West Street, Gargrave, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 3RD (GR SD931541). 08:30. Cut-off time of 3pm at Checkpoint 3 (16.2 miles). Entries are restricted to the first 200. Enter by post or online. Dogs allowed under close control, but not in Gargrave village hall

**Online Entry**

[https://www.sientries.co.uk/event.php?event\\_id=9499](https://www.sientries.co.uk/event.php?event_id=9499)

## Challenge Events

Thanks to all who have sent reports and photos in, you are all a credit to the West Yorkshire Group.

The year started with a very early trip up into Cumbria to take part in the 40<sup>th</sup> running of the That's Lyth

### That's Lyth 2022 report by Jane Parry

The Lakeland LDWA flagship event took place on the 30<sup>th</sup> January. This year was a special one as it was the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the event & my first-time taking part. The morning was glorious, sunny & crisp as 289 walkers & runners set off from Abbot Hall Social Centre in Kendal at 10-minute intervals. There was a good turn out from the West Yorkshire contingent with several members taking part including our Chairperson Ralph Warman, Secretary Chris Burrell & Walk & Social Secretaries Julia Warman & Lesley Peel.

The route is a very pretty 23.6 miles taking in the lower Lakeland fells around the Lyth Valley. The first checkpoint at Crosthwaite Memorial Hall at 7 miles was a welcome stop to grab some refreshment before heading onto the next leg of the walk which included the ascent of Whitbarrow with its memorial cairn at the summit & lovely views which made the climbing worthwhile. We then descended into Buckhouse Wood before eventually arriving at checkpoint two at Witherslack Village Hall at 14.5 miles. Leaving checkpoint two, this next section of the route to the penultimate checkpoint 3 at the Levens Institute is a relatively short section at 4 miles. The route climbs alongside Buckhouse Wood & along part of the river Gilpin before following the road to eventually arrive at checkpoint 3 at 18.3 miles. Suitably refreshed, it was then onto the final 5 miles back to Kendal with this section taking in the dramatic Scout Scar before descending to the Abbot Hall Social Centre for a well-earned cuppa & soup. I'm pleased to say that everyone from West Yorkshire made it round & a good day was had by all, especially as we all finished before the rain started! Thanks to all the organisers & marshals who made the event run smoothly & the checkpoints so welcoming



### Rombalds Stride 2022 report by Vere Ostojic

It was the first Saturday in February and this was the Rombalds Stride Challenge event's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Places are in great demand and sell out fast. This was my 4<sup>th</sup> year and every year brings different experiences and challenges.

The 23-mile route starts and finishes in Guiseley. It takes in Guiseley woods, Baildon Moor, Ilkley Moor, Burley Woodhead, Menston's ginnels, then back up the Chevin before the final descent into Guiseley.

We joined a throng of walkers and runners eagerly awaiting the 9 o'clock signal to get off. I joined some of the West Yorkshire walkers who set a strenuous pace. By the first check point clothing was removed as it wasn't cold. The conditions underfoot were good, not as muddy as previously encountered. Jeff Stevens opening and closing the gates in his usual chivalrous fashion. So far, so good.

While approaching Baildon Trig point, we felt the full extent of the gale force winds. I struggled to stay upright. A potential injury was averted by Chris Burrell who pulled me back from the over powering wind forcing me over.

The descent of Baildon Moor was at a steady pace and tricky due to the mud fest underfoot. No wonder a fellow walker renamed this Rombalds Slide? Once we hit the slabs I stayed with Chris and Karen Pickersgill, battling against the wind and rain, then on to the next checkpoint for food, a slurp of tea and painkillers.

The Marshall's were generous, obliging and helpful despite the desperate conditions.

Onward to Ilkley moor, we clamoured up prominent outcrops of millstone grit in Rocky Valley.

The winds on the ridge were intimidating as we headed over the local erratic gritstone trails, and tried to negotiate the deep bogs.

Driven on by the destabilising wind we approached the next checkpoint in mud splattered coats, wet to the skin, jaded and battling to stay upright.

Roger was there to greet us; offer us encouragement and we were able to wish him Happy Birthday in return.

We made our way through Menston to West Chevin point. The feeling of dread was linked to the ascent of the north face of the Chevin - steep, muddy and a challenge to stay upright. We had done 19 miles by this point. The ascent was challenging to say the least. One could lose the will to live. However, once at the top it was sweet relief to meet pavement and a more amenable descent to the finish.

The finish. Once inside the tent I was relieved to have completed the event. I'm so grateful to my companions, (Chris's skill at self-clip and shoe laces fastening, and Karen's good humour and encouragement) and overawed by the dedication of the supporters and admiration for all who turned out in the hazardous conditions.



## **Winter Poppy Line – Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th February 2022 report by Karen Pickersgill**

The Winter Poppy Line, a 50 mile walk which has to be completed in 22 hours, is held every 3rd year and forms part of the Eastern Triple Challenge alongside the Herts Stroller & the Shotley 50. The event is run by the Norfolk & Suffolk group & takes its name from the North Norfolk Railway (or Poppy Line) which operates a steam train service between two of the main checkpoints on the route – Holt & Sheringham. Operated almost entirely by volunteers, the line is East Anglia's premier heritage railway and the route of the walk crosses over the line several times.

Very early, on a bright & cold winter morning in February, a number of us from the West Yorkshire group gathered at the start of the event, in Aylsham, & set off to tackle the Poppy Line (along with approximately 150 other members). The route is stunning and takes in sections of the spectacular coastline & the undulating countryside around North Norfolk. My favourite section of the route was between Holt & Sheringham which involved walking along the cliff top path and, given the good weather, we had great views of the coastal path and out to sea. The section after Sheringham felt long (12.5 miles) & we hit the second coastal stretch in the dark. A very welcome, and unexpected, refreshment stop in Cromer (as well as a hot chocolate from the vending machine in the Co-op) boosted morale & energy & we soon arrived at the beautiful church in Southrepps where we feasted on hot crumpets! With 12 miles to go in the dark to the finish we got our heads down (nothing to see really!) and arrived back at the school in Aylsham in the early hours of Sunday morning. We only had about an hour of rain over the 50 miles – which is good going for the middle of February!

This was my first time on the Winter Poppy Line and I would certainly recommend it – for the scenery & the interesting route.... but, most of all, for the warm welcome & hospitality from the Norfolk & Suffolk group & all the other LDWA groups who ran checkpoints and kept us fed & watered over the 50 miles. Amazing job and many thanks!



## **THE WOLDSMAN 50 Saturday 9 April 2022 report by Julia Warman**

There was definitely a buzz in the air when we arrived at Driffield for the start of the Woldsmen 50. It is great to see challenge events back on the calendar and everyone was in good spirits at the start of this event. You could feel the anticipation and excitement in the room as everyone was getting ready.

The weather was perfect, dry and sunny but on occasions quite a cool breeze, and once the sun went down hats and gloves were pulled out of our rucksacks to keep us warm.

“Team” West Yorkshire were on form, we talked as much as we walked and it was great to see friends from other groups along the way – together with friends helping out at the various checkpoints on the route. The checkpoints were well stocked and the volunteers were brilliant. Hot toasted crumpets at the last checkpoint definitely hit the spot.

For those who have not done the route before, the Wolds are a vast contrast to the Yorkshire Dales. Steep sided valleys with short sharp climbs out of them, field after field of crops. Most of the route is fairly flat but just after about 30 miles there is an interesting section of 6 miles which is extremely undulating but even, I was ready to climb a few hills and take in the views.

Thank you to Karen, Abi, Ralph and Jane for your company – it was a great day out and pleased with our time of 15 hours 17 mins (for 51 miles to be exact!). For anyone who has not done a 50 before this is an excellent event, easy navigation, lots of excellent indoor checkpoints and lovely scenery. Thanks, East Yorkshire LDWA and a note for your diary the event will be held next year on 15 April 2023.



## **The Kettlewell Challenge Walk 23 miles on the 19th March 2022 report by Iain Haigh**

An absolutely brilliant day with some stunning views over Wharfedale and Malham.

This event was put on by the North Yorkshire LDWA group who must be complimented on their organisation of the event and checkpoints; in particular the food at the checkpoints and the finish was outstanding. The badge and certificate were very cleverly designed and matched what was a fantastic day.

The real bonus of the day was to see lots of familiar LDWA faces from many groups. Clearly, people were so happy to be taking part in a challenge event after all the restrictions with the Covid 19 lockdown etc. It was for many a real chance to get out and enjoy the freedom; fresh air and walk/run at their own pace and just take in the long-distance views on the excellent route. Chatting with people they hadn't seen for maybe over two years or more. It was a fantastic reminder of what the LDWA challenge events stand for and why it's so important for all the groups to put on these events. This is what ultimately will keep the LDWA groups thriving by bringing people together to enjoy both the physical and mental benefits of long-distance walking



## **Two Crosses Circuit 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022 report by Chris Burrell**

This challenge gets its name from the Roman Cross at Affetside and the Pilgrim's cross on Holcombe Moor, even though one is a stone post and the other is a block of stone, so you have to let your imagination take over here.

Starting out from Greenmount Old School the route goes along the disused railway track and through Tottington. Over fields to Affetside and here you find the first of the two 'crosses'. This one is believed to be of medieval origin. Dropping down across fields to Jumbles reservoir, then onto Turton Tower where checkpoint 1 is situated. We join the Witton Weavers Way, and after a brief road section, we climb over a rather lumpy overgrown section of moor land, before dropping down to reach the A666 and Checkpoint 2. Following the track to another climb over Darwen Moor, gently dropping back to reach the road again and then into the woods to reach Entwistle reservoir. Skirting round the edge of the reservoir checkpoint 4 can be found offering all sorts of goodies. Suitably refreshed, we passed the Strawbury Duck and Entwistle railway station. Dropping down through woods to the edge of Wayoh Reservoir and then back up to find Orrell Cote Farm and Checkpoint 5. Climbing again towards Holcombe Moor. Crossing the bogie moor and going around Bull Hill to meet the brave hardy souls at checkpoint 6. We continue over the moor to reach the second cross – Pilgrim's Cross and then onto Peel Tower. The end is now in sight! Passing Greenmount Golf Club, we only needed to pass the church and we had finished. The hot soup and crusty bread went down a treat. Many thanks to the East Lanc's Group for putting on a tremendous event.

## **Mini Biographies Number Two: Chris Burrell – Secretary**

In my teens and early twenties my passion was motor cycles, competing in Trials, Moto Cross and Enduro event around the country. This had to be put on hold when marriage and the family came along, then it was a case of work, putting in long hours eating fast food at the wrong time of the day, resulted in a weight gain, reaching nearly 15 ½ stone at one point. At 48 I decided enough was enough and started a fitness regime, joining the LDWA and Halifax Harriers AC, which paid dividends in losing 4 stone. Now a veteran of a number of marathons, Half Marathons, Triathlons and many other races around the UK. A bad push bike accident resulted in me turning to a less extreme activity, social walking with the West Yorkshire LDWA, it wasn't long before the competitor in me turned me to LDWA Challenge events, which I find a brilliant way to keep fit, meet some very interesting people and seeing some wonderful locations. I now hold the post of Secretary for West Yorkshire and working closely with Karen Pickersgill [NEC Local Group Officer] I support local groups as Social Walks Co-ordinator.

**And to finish: -**

**Three old Yorkshire men are sitting on a park bench. The first says  
"Windy, innit?"**

**The second says "No. Thursdy."**

**The third says "Me too. Let's go for a pint."**

Thanks for supporting the West Yorkshire Long Distance Walker Association.

Keep Safe and Happy Walking

Chris Burrell

West Yorkshire LDWA Secretary

[westyorks.secretary@ldwa.org.uk](mailto:westyorks.secretary@ldwa.org.uk)