



## News from the NEC

### January 2022



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Don't forget – you can view updates and news as they arise by visiting the [news page](#) on the website.

### **New Long Distance Paths Officer**

A warm welcome to Iain Connell (East Lancashire), who has been co-opted onto the National Executive Committee as Long-Distance Paths Officer. Iain is a long serving member who has been supporting the LDWA for a number of years in different capacities is a welcome addition to the team.

Iain is now overseeing the management for the most comprehensive database of long-distance paths in the UK! Welcome!

## New Social Walks Co-ordinator



Another warm welcome to Chris Burrell, Secretary of the West Yorkshire Group, who has volunteered to take on the role of Social Walks Coordinator. He will be responsible for releasing social walks uploaded to the local group websites and for producing the social walks listing for publication in Strider. In addition, Chris will be working with the local groups to further develop the Social Walks Database over the next 12 months.

The Social Walks Database is an important resource for our members, and we aim to develop this further during 2022. To help with this we will be holding a short zoom meeting over the next few weeks to demonstrate how to upload GPX files, and other information, to your local walks database. Please can you register your interest by contacting Chris via email [swcoordinator@ldwa.org.uk](mailto:swcoordinator@ldwa.org.uk).

Further information and guidance can be found in the Social Walks Database section of the [Toolkit](#). Click on toolkit to access the page on the website.

## Communications Volunteers



*Communications Officer, Julian White, taking a break during his Virtual 100 in 2021*

We're looking for volunteers for the communications team. We're starting to develop our new on-line magazine style website and we need more content, which means we're looking for volunteers to write it, volunteers to edit it and volunteers to make it look nice on-line. If that's not enough, we would like more people to help promote this content on social media. This is an important part of our plan for future growth and to get our name out there, we don't like being one of walking's best kept secrets.

We're not advertising specific positions; we just want to hear from everyone who might be interested in helping. Even if just for an hour a week (or more if you can) we think we can find a role that would be interesting for you and that would be very helpful for us. Please e-mail Julian at [communications@ldwa.org.uk](mailto:communications@ldwa.org.uk) if you think you can help, just let us know what you're interested in the most.

## Challenge Events

In mid-January Surrey Group had 355 on its 43<sup>rd</sup> Winter Tanners (20/30 miles, in the Surrey Hills). There were changes implemented successfully; nothing indoors, wrapped food, plenty of anti-bac and lateral flow tests requested. Richard Ireson, event organiser said, "there is definitely a feeling we're 'back in business' and we have every confidence to run further Covid Safe Challenge Events".



Tim Glenn, Challenge Events Secretary also highlighted, "Naturally, organisers are and should be cautious, but confidence is growing, and the membership are highly receptive to the regeneration of our challenge events, with many soon being declared full after their release".

## Trans-Pennine 100

The annual 100 event is due to take place from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022. At present we have 480 entrants so there are a few places left! The route has now been finalised with just over 11,000 foot of ascent. That said the route has been designed that once you are over a big lump there will be a flatter section or two to 'recover'. Event Organiser, Aaron Hookway, said, "We are bringing you to a lovely area, the area between Sheffield and Barnsley is a gem sometimes overlooked by the Peak District. The Dark Peak, being a very different beast to the White Peak along with the summit of Black Hill and the Great Ridge are some of the Highlights".



## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events

Thank you to all the groups who have forwarded details of their events to celebrate our 50th Anniversary. We have a wide variety of interesting activities planned – including the 'Big Walk' over the weekend of 18th and 19th June. The 50th Anniversary calendar of events will feature again in the April issue of Strider and also our website. So, please send through details of any further planned celebrations to Karen at [groups@ldwa.org.uk](mailto:groups@ldwa.org.uk) by Friday 11th February.

## AGM Weekend



The National Annual General Meeting social weekend will be held at Woodland Grange, Leamington Spa 4th-6th March 2022. This is a chance to meet the National Executive Committee and members from all over the country. There are workshops, merchandise on sale, an interesting speaker, a quiz and of course walks of varying distances and an outing.

The formal AGM takes place on Sunday morning. Further details are given [here](#). If you've never been, now is your chance! It's a great weekend, do join us. There are some rooms remaining if you wish to stay for the weekend. Please contact Sue at [suewiddowson52@gmail.com](mailto:suewiddowson52@gmail.com) for more information.

## Tips from the Toolkit



The Toolkit is a resource for all of our Officers, Members and Volunteers. It is organised alphabetically and is searchable (Windows browsers use *Ctrl+F*. Safari on a Mac uses *⌘Cmd+F*. Mobile use *Find in page*).

This month's focus is on M for Marketing and Publicity. This section contains links lots of templates and other useful ideas to help you promote your group and support with organising events. There are logos, poster templates, sample magazine adverts and flyers, as well as a QR code for the website.

## The LDWA Archive

Over the past few months Stuart Bain, Risk and Environment Officer on the NEC, has taken on the unofficial role of Archivist after he was given a large box of papers dating back 40 years and more. The archive has been curated brings more of our Association's history to life. Some of these documents have revealed fascinating facts and I will be including something from the archives in each of our newsletters. This month's extract relates to the European Ramblers Association (ERA).

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## The LDWA Archive cont:



**ERA-EWV-FERP**

The LDWA's application to join the ERA was unanimously approved on 6 October 1992. European Ramblers Association is an umbrella organisation that comprises 66 walking organisations from 35 European countries. These organisations have a total of more than 3 million individual members who collaborate to promote the benefits of walking.

Stuart is always seeking new archive material, especially photos. If you have any you wish to share, please contact Stuart at [risk@ldwa.org.uk](mailto:risk@ldwa.org.uk).

## Website Links:

[Long Distance Path Database](#)

[Challenge Events](#)

[Trans-Pennine 100](#)

[Toolkit](#)

[Shop](#)

[Discounts Page](#)

[Online Striders](#)

[Hill Walkers & National Trails Registers](#)

## Stat Attack: Long Distance Paths

Our top ten most viewed long-distance paths on our website in 2021:

Long Distance Path	Views in 2021
<a href="#">Monarch's Way</a>	24,151
<a href="#">Coast to Coast (Wainwright)</a>	18,120
<a href="#">Viking Way</a>	11,324
<a href="#">Limestone Way</a>	8,658
<a href="#">Severn Way</a>	8,603
<a href="#">Saxon Shore Way</a>	8,338
<a href="#">Windermere Walking Around the Lake</a>	7,932
<a href="#">Suffolk Coast Path</a>	7,895
<a href="#">Daffodil Way</a>	7,877
<a href="#">Wirral Way</a>	7,398

## That's it for this month!

Thanks for reading and if you have any ideas or suggestions to include within the newsletter, please let us know by contacting Julie at [chair@ldwa.org.uk](mailto:chair@ldwa.org.uk).

## The 10-second Survey

Please email us at [survey@ldwa.org.uk](mailto:survey@ldwa.org.uk) with your answer to the question below:

Out of 10 (10 excellent), how do you rate Strider?

We'd also be interested in your thoughts about Strider Content.

- What sections of Strider do you like the best?
- What sections of Strider do you like the least?
- What new content should we start including?

## The National Executive Committee

Chair:	Julie Cribb	<a href="mailto:chair@ldwa.org.uk">chair@ldwa.org.uk</a>
General Secretary:	Madeleine Watson	<a href="mailto:secretary@ldwa.org.uk">secretary@ldwa.org.uk</a>
Treasurer:	John Elrick	<a href="mailto:treasurer@ldwa.org.uk">treasurer@ldwa.org.uk</a>
Membership:	Julia Warman	<a href="mailto:membership@ldwa.org.uk">membership@ldwa.org.uk</a>
Challenge Events Secretary:	Tim Glenn	<a href="mailto:events@ldwa.org.uk">events@ldwa.org.uk</a>
100s Coordinator:	Sara Dyer	<a href="mailto:100scoordinator@ldwa.org.uk">100scoordinator@ldwa.org.uk</a>
Communications:	Julian White	<a href="mailto:communications@ldwa.org.uk">communications@ldwa.org.uk</a>
Local Groups Secretary:	Karen Pickersgill	<a href="mailto:groups@ldwa.org.uk">groups@ldwa.org.uk</a>
IT and Internet:	Stuart Bain (interim)	<a href="mailto:internet@ldwa.org.uk">internet@ldwa.org.uk</a>
Environment:	Stuart Bain	<a href="mailto:environment@ldwa.org.uk">environment@ldwa.org.uk</a>
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