

## **WALKING 2<sup>ND</sup> MONDAY (5-6 miles): Contact Geoff HARRIS**

We are a social group, comprising of 32 members who meet monthly for an all-weather walk, rain or shine,. Our routes are circular, usually commencing within a 10 mile radius of Melton. We average 5 mile, taking about 2 hrs depending on terrain, number of stiles etc and finish with lunch at a hostelry. (Not obligatory.)

Any member is free to lead a walk of their choice, and over the past year we have been on Canal Towpaths, Bradgate Park, Rutland Water, through muddy fields , farmyards, and rural villages whilst enjoying scenic views from Wymondham Windmill, West Leake, Billesdon, Prestwold, Greetham and Barkby to name but a few.

### **New Membership.**

The group is slightly over subscribed, the advised limit being 30 members and as with other walking groups, we have a waiting list.

The problem is twofold; There is, in my opinion, capacity for an extra group to be formed and secondly some existing members walk with more than one group which restricts new entrants joining.

My suggestion is that when enrolling new members, preference ought to be given to those who do not belong to other walking groups.

I am open to feedback on these comments.

**Group Co-ordinator: Geoff Harris**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Monday Walking Group – Greetham in the rain!**



## **WALKING 4<sup>TH</sup> MONDAY (5-6 miles): Contact Jennifer GREGORY**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Monday Walking Group**

The group has had another enjoyable year, walking far and wide. The group is full at present with 30 members. Walks, which are between 4 and 5 miles, always circular have included Bottesford, Hickling, Wysall, Burton-on-the-Wolds, Burrough, Zouch and Croxton Kerrial. In the main the weather has been good, although often muddy under foot, due to the excessive amount of rain we seem to have experienced this year. My thanks go to all the members of the group who have volunteered to lead a walk.

Looking forward to many more enjoyable walks and refreshments at local pubs.

Jennifer Gregory

## **WALKING 1<sup>ST</sup> THURSDAY (6-8 miles): Contact Wendy & Stuart Posnett**

We have enjoyed some interesting and quite challenging walks in 2016, and managed not to miss a month despite, at times, there being quite adverse conditions. The walk is well supported and monthly attendance is usually from 12 to 18 members.

Members of the group have continued to volunteer to lead walks, which has meant that we have been to areas we have not previously covered. Although we aim for the walks to be fairly close to Melton Mowbray, we have ventured into Rutland, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire. We generally start and finish at a hostel. Though this is not the main purpose of the walks, it does give members the chance to sample different fare, should they so wish.

For the future, we hope that members of the group will continue to volunteer to lead walks and that in due course someone will decide to take on the leadership.

**Richard and Jo Bewell**

## **WALKING 3<sup>RD</sup> WEDNESDAY: Contact Rob ISSITT**

A Walkers Year!

A year ago the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday walking group set out from the village of Wysall on its very first walk. There were eight members present, a decent turn-out given the dire weather forecast. But we didn't get the rain, the sun came out and we all made it back to the Plough PH after an enjoyable walk.

Apart from one grumpy bullock the October and November walks were uneventful and continued in a similar way - bad weather forecasts, but we kept getting away with it and we remained dry. I was getting a bit of a reputation for having the good weather gods on my side!

The January walk from Gaddesby was rather a muddy affair but with a turn-out of fourteen and the sun shining, we slipped, slithered and plodded our way around. It seemed longer than its four and a half miles.

In February our good weather luck ran out but a dull and drizzly day at Greetham didn't dampen our spirits and we pushed on through the murky weather. The March, April and May walks were all in good weather and the group continued to grow with new members joining.

The walk from Wymondham in June kindly led for us by Geoff Harris was once again forecast to be bad but we had sunshine, no showers and some great views of the surrounding countryside.

In July walking from Seaton and passing the famous Haringworth Viaduct the day was very hot and humid and the last mile up-hill back to the George & Dragon was quite a pull. The group revisited Harby for the August walk completing the first twelve months for the third Wednesday walkers.

Many thanks to Ken & Jen Widdowson for their help and experience on the walks. Also Geoff Harris and Ann & Andy Richards for information and maps of walks to get a newbie at this walking lark started. Not forgetting of course all the regular walkers without whom there wouldn't be a group. Rob Issitt

3rd Wednesday walking group' March 2017 – Grimston

