



SLR NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2013

www.stokelodgeramblers.wordpress.com

Editor's Note

After all the rain the sun shone and we had a lovely summer; let's keep our fingers crossed for the autumn. We have had some excellent walks with a glorious seven mile walk at the beginning of September in the Malverns when twenty people joined Steve Day who was leading for the first time. Hopefully there will be more good leaders coming forward after David Hayes has given some guidance on his training course - see later - do please sign up for what will be first-rate tuition.

Sadly two of our members have died and obituaries have been written for Bob Wintle and Eva Nelson.

An **important reminder** - Pat Walter still has some places left for the visit to the Museum of Art History Design and Live Theatre on Monday 21st October at 10.30am. Full information which was in the Summer Newsletter has been repeated at the end. Do please contact Pat on 968 2281 to secure a place.

The Chairman has covered all the points and so it remains for me to say "happy walking".

Davina MacRae

Key Dates

Monday 21 October

10.30am

Museum of Art History Design and Live Theatre
21 Park Row

Saturday 26 October

7.30pm

AGM at Highgrove Church, High Grove, Sea Mills

Thursday 12 December

Christmas lunch and walks at The Grange, Winterbourne

Chairman's Remarks

Hello everyone

Since our last Newsletter there has been a dramatic change in the weather – July and August have been hot and (mainly) dry which has meant great walking conditions and activities for the club.

* We had a really great day at Hereford for our annual coach outing in June – see report later in this Newsletter. Many thanks to Rosanne Carwardine for organising the day so well.

* Looking forward – we have our **AGM on Saturday 26th October** at the new venue of Highgrove Church Hall in Sea Mills. Please do come along and hear about the club's last 12 months activities and more importantly what is planned over 2013-14. This will be the normal American Supper format – so please bring along a savoury dish. Subscriptions for the 2013-14 will be collected on the evening and we will be collating the new Walks & Social Programme for January - June 2014 during the evening. For further details please see the attachments enclosed with this Newsletter.

* **Annual Weekend Holidays 2013 and 2014.**

Plans for the 2013 weekend away at the HF hotel in Dovedale in October (11th - 14th) are now fully in place with 42 members attending. This will be the fifth and final holiday organised by Davina to whom we all owe a great debt of gratitude for all her hard work over the last 5 years.

In 2014, yours truly will be attempting to follow Davina in organising the annual holiday. As we are now HF Club Activity Members and wish to take advantage of the benefits this brings the club, I have booked a Guided Walks weekend at the HF property at Lulworth Cove on the stunning Dorset coastline for October 10th - 13th 2014. I have written to all likely attendees with more information of what is planned and full details will be communicated to all members in the Winter Newsletter.

New Member

Welcome to Margaret Blake who has joined us recently.

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* **Xmas Lunch and Walks**

This will be on Thursday 12th December at the Mercure Bristol North the Grange Hotel – thanks to John Hollyman and Gordon and Wendy Wise for arranging the venue and the walks. See the attachment for full details of signing up for this event – I hope you will all support and join us to celebrate the end of our 30th year as a Walking Club.

* **Website's 3rd Birthday!!**

The SLR website will be 3 years old in September – we now have a home page and 9 other pages giving News Updates, HF information and photos from recent walks and events. At the time of writing (end August '13) the site has had a total of 8300 "hits" (visits). If you want to share any news or photos with the club please e-mail me at nfbrewis@yahoo.co.uk.

Otherwise enjoy at:-

www.stokelodgeramblers.wordpress.com

Neville Brewis

Coach walk round Hereford on Saturday 15th June

You may recall that the first half of June was heralding more of the same dreary cold English summer ... but mercifully, come the day the heavens smiled upon us (more or less) and a few spots of rain were felt between the intervals of sun and scudding clouds, which represented ideal walking weather for all concerned. The A walkers, and here I would like to thank John Hollyman for supporting me in leading this walk, explored the fertile rolling countryside of the Herefordshire Golden Valley; this boasts glorious views and peaceful isolation from "civilisation", and we finally visited the ancient 14th Cistercian monastic Abbey at Abbey Dore, followed by a welcome pint (or two) at the appropriately named and hospitable Neville Arms. We were then whisked off by our diligent coach driver, whose timing and care for us all was exemplary, to Hereford Cathedral where we had time to take in its many fascinating artefacts, including the famous Mappa Mundi medieval map of the world.

The B group, led by Margaret Ruse with Pam Porter as back marker, enjoyed an interesting, fairly level ramble along the river bank to the 14thC village of Mordiford before returning to Hereford to visit the Cathedral and city.

Lastly, I would like to say how grateful I am to Alison Ranken for stepping in to lead the small group of C walkers who followed the river, through meadows, on a route from Hereford up one side and back down the other via a bridge. There was plenty of opportunity to explore the Cathedral, in which some of us spent our last half hour listening to the choir practising. It was a fitting and uplifting end to a lovely day. Thank you to all leaders and back markers for your hard work in making the day so enjoyable, and to everyone for coming.

Rosanne Carwardine

Walk Leaders' Workshops

The intention of running "workshops" in Walk Leading during the coming winter months was trailed in the last Newsletter. The primary aim is to encourage younger/newer members to lead our Sunday and Thursday Walks. In addition if you have already led and would like to improve your skills you will be welcome.

We aim to start by the end of October – time and date to be advised.

If you are interested – and have not already done so – kindly send me an e-mail as soon as possible: djhayes@blueyonder.co.uk

David Hayes

Thursday 7th November "Tyntesfield re-visited" - medium walk

This is a car-free walk - 6/7 miles, linear, returning by bus. Please meet **NOT** at Cross Elms Lane but at the Clifton end of the Suspension Bridge at 10.00am, booted and ready to walk. N.B. Please contact me in advance of the walk if you feel you will have problems walking across the Suspension Bridge.

I do not advise taking a car to Clifton as parking is difficult/impossible. I recommend taking the No. 9 bus from the top of Blackboy Hill at 09.38 to Christ Church Clifton, which is a short walk from the Suspension Bridge. (The bus will take you down Whiteladies Rd, via St. Paul's Rd and Pembroke Rd, past the zoo to Christ Church, which is on the green next to Clifton Village). Please remember your bus pass, if you have one. If you were born too late to have one, I advise buying a day ticket to cover zones 1, 2 and 3 (to cover your return journey from Tyntesfield). Check on Firstbus website for day ticket prices.

The walk follows a short section of the Monarch's Way and then picks up the Gordano Round. I hope we will enjoy some autumn colours, especially through the wooded sections of the walk, as well as good views. We should arrive at Tyntesfield in time for lunch (picnic or cafe). The House will not be open but the gardens will be. Please bring your NT card if you wish to visit the gardens.

Return buses to Anchor Rd, the Centre and the Bus Station are half-hourly (Bus 354 from opposite the Battle Axes pub, Wraxall). I will guide you to the stop, even if we do not all travel back to Bristol at the same time, should some of the group wish to linger in the gardens.

I look forward to seeing a good number of medium walkers on 7th November.

Margaret Ruse

Eva Nelson
15th July 1923 - 9th August 2013

On Monday 19th August many older members of Stoke Lodge Ramblers celebrated the life of Eva at a Thanksgiving Service held in the United Reformed Church, Henleaze.

Eva Brummelova was born in Pilsen, Czechoslovakia into a cultured and privileged Jewish family of tanners. In July 1939 Eva became one of the 664 Jewish children evacuated by Nicholas Winton (Britain's "Schindler") in one of his "Kindertransport" trains rescuing Jewish children from the impending Holocaust.

Arriving in England, unable to speak English (but speaking four other languages) Eva lived with friends of the family in Birmingham where she later qualified as a Doctor's Dispenser.

In 1946 she took an appointment at the Bristol Mental Hospital, Barrow Gurney and it was there that she met her husband-to-be, Mike, having been appointed to the staff of the Hospital on de-mob from the RAF in 1952. Eva and Mike married in 1955.

In 1983 Eva and Mike joined Stoke Lodge Ramblers as founder members.

We, who knew Eva, remember her ever-cheerful view on life, in spite of - or perhaps because of - the many difficulties she had experienced in the past, and more recently her failing health and mobility.

We will ever remember her, and are sincerely grateful for the friendship of Eva and Mike Nelson.

Kenneth Mewes

Bob Wintle

Bob was a long time member of Stoke Lodge Ramblers and arranged several garden visits for us. He was involved in many clubs and associations within the Bristol area, his interests covering a wide range of subjects. He was a great lover of the arts often joining a coach trip or going by himself to London to visit art galleries, museums, theatres and the opera - on occasions several times in one week.

Bob was most entertaining and knowledgeable and loved talking to people either in person or on the 'phone. He had been ill for several months and died in July 2013.

Dave Memery

**A Visit to the Museum of Art History,
Design and Live Art Theatre**

21 Park Row, BS1 5LY
Monday 21 October 2013 at 10.30am

No entrance fee but a donation would be welcome. There are a few places left so please book with Pat Walter on 968 2281 as soon as possible

Have you ever seen the earliest map of London showing the sites of the Globe and Rose theatres which were built on former bear baiting pits? Well here it is, together with the early drawings of the Globe that were used in the reconstruction of the theatre. Also to be seen, and more up to date, is the programme and early newspaper cuttings of Judy Dench's first major role when she was just out of Drama school. Then there is one of the early 1766 coin like discs, which were mentioned during our visit to the Old Vic, which gave unlimited access for a lifetime to the Bristol Theatre to those who donated £50.

Just a taster of the type of material that has been collected here, which we shall see as we sit at a table passing round objects from the collection as their significance is explained. But because people come from all over the world to do research here the building is only open to groups on Monday morning and then only to a small number. Afterwards we can have lunch nearby for those who choose.

Pat Walter