

STOKE LODGE RAMBLERS

NEWS UPDATE SPRING 2019

Thank you to the large numbers who turned out on a very sunny Saturday evening early in April to hear Professor Michael Danson's talk on travels to Antarctica. Most agree he was an outstanding speaker with fascinating photographs (and something of a fascination with toilets!). The bring and share meal was an outstanding success and we are grateful for the culinary skills of so many contributors. (If you lost a pyrex dish, Sara Willmott has it.)

At that evening, small cards were made available with the club's details: please give them to interested friends and encourage them to join us on a suitable walk. Do ask David McGregor if you would like more.

Walking will be in the news around Bristol as the [Bristol Walk Fest](#) ⁽¹⁾ takes place all through May. Some walks require pre-booking (and some are fully booked already!) so do check.

Some of our members have had to take a break from walking with us following injury or ill-health, but have found [Walking for Health on the Downs](#) ⁽²⁾ very useful for their recovery. There are three regular walks (Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, with the recommendation to start on a Monday) and occasional faster paced Saturday walks. There are a number of other [Health Walks across the city](#) ⁽³⁾ should you want a change of scenery. When you've been 'out of it' for a while, there is something very reassuring about walking in a group, with leaders and back markers, in an already familiar area.

Walks July – December

Do check the website for [forthcoming walks](#) ⁽⁴⁾ and offer your support to those who have spent so much time planning them out. THE [NEXT WALKS PROGRAMME](#) ⁽⁵⁾ from July to December needs offers to lead and we are trying a new method of filling the dates: Margaret Ruse emailed current walks leaders with a link to a google document which you can edit. We encourage ALL LEADERS to add their name to dates which they can lead over the autumn. At this stage it is not critical to add details of the walks other than a general venue to allow planning of a balanced programme. If you are having problems with this method of offering walks, please contact Margaret.

Future Events

Thursday 2nd May is the next Social Lunch at **Hunters Lodge** – please contact Lilo de Beaufort on 0117 962 3525 if you would like to attend. This is for anyone, members past and present, potential members, walkers and non-walkers but we like to have numbers to ensure they are expecting us.

This is also the date for the Tobacco Factory Theatre performance of [Our Country's Good](#) ⁽⁶⁾ which several members are attending. If you want to buy tickets and meet them there, please do so.

The Short Walk on Thursday 23rd May is a gentle stroll around Lag and Holt Farm Garden, Blagdon with lunch in the Yeo Valley canteen. Sara Wilmott will be taking bookings nearer the time: watch this space.

That Thursday is also our next committee meeting if anyone wants to lobby for events to be run!

Saturday 29th June **Summer Outing to OXFORD**. Like last year, the summer outing will be by train from Bristol Temple Meads. The fare will be £17 provided we book in advance and we will arrange to travel together as a group. This will avoid committing the club to potential over expenditure. Timetables have yet to be published, but we expect to depart from Bristol Temple Meads at about 9.30am returning about 7.15 pm. The committee has decided that coach outings are sadly not possible with current membership numbers as the last 2 have lost money.

Gill Dunphy hopes to arrange a **Vineyard tour** in August: again, watch this space.

Friday 27th – Monday 30th October **Shrewsbury Away Weekend** with Secret Hills. 32 deposits have been taken and the final monies are due in August. A reminder will be sent with further details.

Saturday 26th October 7.00pm, **AGM with shared supper** in Stoke Bishop Village Hall.

November, date tbc: **Walk Leaders Training session** on use of OS electronic maps.

Thursday 12th December: Christmas Meal at Long Ashton Golf Club.

Wednesday 1st January 2020: we hope to visit the Swan at Tytherington for our New Year's Day Walk and lunch, but details will be confirmed nearer the time.

2020 Away Weekend is planned for the Isle of Purbeck in late September with Secret Hills.

Other News

We are delighted that Anne Memery is recovering after her sudden illness.

We propose sponsoring the planting of a tree to support the environment and use up some of the historic accumulated funds in the account. Any view on this project would be welcome at the AGM as the planting season is over the winter.

We have purchased two more First Aid kits (plus waterproof stuff sacks) and six more high-viz 'tabards' (very light and one-size) so that we now have a total of four FAKs, each with two high-viz tops. The tabards may not often be needed, but they are invaluable on gloomy winter afternoons, and would be useful for identifying the Walks Leader / Back Marker if there was ever an incident requiring the emergency services. We will review how kits are stored and passed on to Walks Leaders at our next committee meeting.

We would be delighted to hear from any members keen to lead social or other outings – please be in contact with a [committee member](#) ⁽⁷⁾.

David McGregor

- (1) <https://www.bristolwalkfest.com>
- (2) <https://www.walkingforhealth.org.uk/walkfinder/downs-walking-for-health-group-bristol>
- (3) <https://www.walkingforhealth.org.uk/walk/search/Bristol%2CCity+of+Bristol%2CEngland>
- (4) <https://stokelodgeramblers.wordpress.com/walks-programme/>
- (5) <http://bit.do/SLRWalks19-2>
- (6) <https://www.tobaccofactorytheatres.com/shows/our-countrys-good-by-timberlake-wertenbaker/>
- (7) <https://stokelodgeramblers.wordpress.com/about-us/contacts-list/>