

The Robin Hood Way Association

Official Newsletter

Summer 2003 Edition

Chairman: Chris Thompson

Treasurer: David Turner

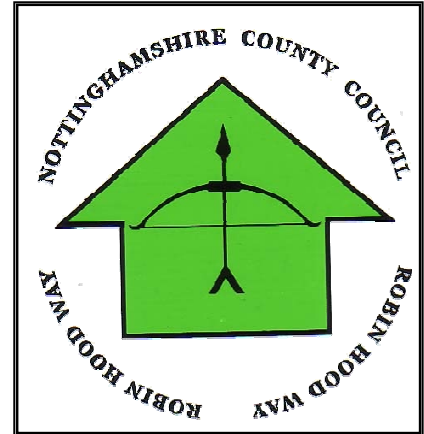
Secretary: Geoffrey Rix

New Waymarks for RHW

Last December at a meeting with Nottinghamshire County Council at Boughton Pumping Station it was agreed that a new style waymark for the Robin Hood Way should be introduced during 2003.

The Authority was concerned that the colour(s) chosen were resistant to sunlight and that the waymark should also be of a similar style to their current standard yellow/blue ones for footpaths and bridleways. Obviously the selected design should incorporate both the title 'Robin Hood Way', the name 'Nottinghamshire County Council' and our bow and arrow logo as you

can see in the illustration opposite. We feel that this is a significant step forward as the Association is particularly keen for the County Council to give some sort of priority to the RHW when it comes to footpath maintenance. At present the 'Way' is only accorded the same status as other public Rights of Ways and maintenance was a bit spasmodic in places but now that we are promoting the RHW more vigorously and encouraging groups to use the route then good maintenance is essential. Our path wardens have already been issued with a supply of the new waymarks so the next time that you walk part of the RHW



look out and see if you can spot some of these new aids to finding your route.

Belvoir Ramblers on the RHW

This January the Vale of Belvoir RA Group started to walk the RHW in sections and by mid June they had reached Nomanshill Wood near Ravenshead – a distance of thirty four miles so far.

By sheer coincidence the Editor of this newsletter was out walking with the Dukeries RA group in March and 'bumped' into them on the Hucknall aerodrome perimeter path and did not realise at the time that they were walking the entire route of the RHW. It just shows what a small world it is.

Website News

Since the last report 598 visitors have found the RHW website. The website is receiving on average 54 hits (visits) a week, a total of 2,027 visitors. International visitors have increased and visits have been received from Norway, Canada, Gibraltar as well as many other places.

An up to date list of members who have completed the walk have been added as well as an archive page. Recent alterations to the website will be linked to the newly added updates page.

A list of Robin Hood Way route

alterations since the publication of the book will be added soon. Spring cleaning has continued on the website and a number of new photographs will be added. If members wish to suggest any features they would like to see, email paul@robinhoodway.co.uk

Paul Walden

Editors Note

Since Paul prepared this article in the middle of May there has been a considerable increase in the number of hits onto the website. In fact by the beginning of June the figure had risen to over 2,200.

Visit our web-site at www.robinhoodway.co.uk

(Designed and maintained by Webmaster John Gurnhill)

The Sherwood Stroll

On Saturday 3 May thirty six members and their guests turned out for the six mile walk around the village of Edwinstowe followed by lunch at Ma Hubbard's Hotel on the High Street.

The route went past the relatively new sculpture of Robin and Marian which is situated close to the library and somewhat surprisingly this was a first viewing for some of the participants. Close to Archway House Chris Thompson tried to recruit a new member to the Association as can be seen in the picture (right) whilst at St Edwin's Cross we met a couple from the West Midlands who were staying locally on holiday.

This meeting was the first of three on the day as we met up with them again at Centre Tree and at the Hotel where they were enjoying a meal on our recommendation. We obviously made an impression on them as they joined one of the Notts County Council's Leisure Services 10 mile guided walks on the following Bank Holiday Monday which started at Church



Chris Thompson, David Harrison and Joan Barks making a new friend near Archway House.

Picture – David Turner

Street car park in Southwell.

Committee member Elizabeth Goldthorp, from Worksop, joined us for lunch and it was especially pleasing to meet up with her again as she was recovering from a recent operation on her foot. This

type of injury seems to be affecting our Committee members at present since Richard Gunn, from Bulwell, is also recovering from an injured foot. The question now is who will be the third victim?

Membership passes One Hundred

It has long been the ambition of the Association to reach the target of having one hundred members and this was finally achieved during the middle of March this year when Mrs Ida Mills, from Southwell, became the Association's one-hundredth member. So in order to commemorate this significant landmark in our history the Committee

decided to offer her free life time membership.

Although Ida has not yet walked the entire 105 miles of the Robin Hood Way we are pleased to have reached this important target in our membership.

From early March a considerable number of other people, from all over the county, have also joined the Association and we would like to take this opportunity to welcome them all to our merry band.

They are:

Peter and Margaret Smith (Nottingham), **David Gale** (Nottingham), **Wendy Lowe** (Southwell), **Mike and Judy Price** (Southwell), **Gordon Froment** (Kirkby-in-Ashfield), **Maureen Savage** (Farnsfield), **Christine Grant** (Newark), **Alison Thomson** (Southwell) and **Beryl Walker** (Newark).

Do you like walking and Cream Teas? Then join us on our next walk and social event at Greasley in August!

Another good day at Farnsfield

Forty two people turned out on Sunday 2 March for our first event day of 2003 in Farnsfield with thirty seven going on the walk.

This figure included a couple from Nottingham, Peter and Margaret Smith, who had walked the Robin Hood Way back in the late 1980s. Since the weather was bright and sunny John Gurnhill, our webmaster from Ravenshead, turned up complete with camera and proceeded to take over fifty photographs which are available for all to see on the website's Home Page via a hyperlink.

The walk, led by Geoff Rix, took in Edingley Church with its rare exposed bell tower and Kirklington Watermill which is situated on the tiny river Greet. After the ramble thirty nine members and their guests retired to the Red Lion Inn in Farnsfield for Sunday lunch.



Association members **Tracey Whatton** from Ancaster and **Richard Legg** from Southwell lead the way through a kissing gate on the Farnsfield walk in March. Can you name the other walkers?

Picture: John Gurnhill

Talk at Ravenshead Group's AGM

On Tuesday 18 March the RHW Association's Secretary Geoff Rix gave a forty five minute talk on the history of the Robin Hood Way at the Ramblers' Association Ravenshead Group's Annual General Meeting which took

place in the Local Leisure Centre off Langdale Lane.

Around thirty people turned up for the event with the majority of them having walked all or at least part of the Robin Hood Way. At the end of the proceedings there was a question and answer section

followed by the opportunity for people to buy our current guide book at a reduced price of £4.50.

A few days after the meeting, apparently, there was a suggestion that some walks should be arranged that included part of the Robin Hood Way in the group's next walks programme.

This type of function is a perfect opportunity for publicising the Robin Hood Way so if anyone would like a speaker for such an occasion then please contact the Association's Secretary Geoff Rix on 01636 708049.

Robin's Teasers

- When was Clumber House demolished?
- Which infamous 'lady' has connections with Bestwood park?
- Which Nottingham Inn claims to be the oldest in England?

Answers at the foot of page 4

Our next event is on Sunday 10 August. Make a note in your diary if you like Cream Teas

EVENTS FOR 2003

Following on from our extremely successful programme of walks and social events that the Association organised last year we hope that you enjoy this years offerings and look forward to seeing all again. Everyone will be made welcome on all the walks, whether they be members or not, but the **meals are for members and their guests only** due to seating restrictions.

All members are welcome to attend the Committee Meetings, just turn up on the night.

Saturday 21 June

CLUMBER AND CARBURTON

5.75 miles

Meet: On the grass verge near the Old Schoolhouse Tearooms at Carburton Crossroads on the B6034, south of Worksop (SK 607728). **1.00pm**

Join Committee Member Elizabeth Goldthorp on this gentle walk, following part of the Robin Hood Way onto the Clumber Estate which is now in the care of the National Trust.

Cream teas, priced at £2.50 each, will be available from around 4.00pm and **must be ordered from Janet Rix** by returning the form below, by no later than **Monday 16 June**. A DEPOSIT OF £1 PER PERSON MUST BE INCLUDED WITH YOUR ORDER. As there is a maximum limit of 35 people bookings will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis.

Sunday 10 August

AROUND GREASLEY

5 miles

Meet: In the lay-by near Greasley Church on the B600 (SK 489473). **1.30pm**

Join Committee Member Richard Gunn on this great walk close to the city of Nottingham yet surprisingly in a rural environment in the heart of D H Lawrence country.

Afternoon teas will be available, after the walk, at the Minton Tea Rooms, next to Greasley Church, at approximately **4.00pm**. All food **must be pre-booked from Janet Rix**. Members will be notified nearer the date.

Sunday 24 August

IN THE SHADE OF SOUTHWELL MINSTER

5.5 miles

Meet: Southwell Trail car park on Station Road, Southwell (SK 706544). **2.00pm**

Join Geoff Rix on an attractive ramble using the excellent network of footpaths and tracks in the lovely countryside that surrounds the Minster Town of Southwell.

Sunday 7 September

CRESWELL CRAGS CIRCULAR

8.5 miles

Meet: Creswell Crags Visitor Centre car park (SK 538745). **10.00am**

Join Paul Walden on this walk that follows the RHW to Welbeck, Manor Hills, Hodthorpe, Whitwell and returning to Creswell. At the end there is an opportunity for refreshments in the VC shop.

Thursday 2 October, 7.30pm

COMMITTEE MEETING - Venue: The White Hart, Ollerton

Sunday 19 October

MORNING WALK FOLLOWED BY SUNDAY LUNCH - DETAILS LATER

Sunday 10 August. Don't forget to send your order off to Janet. Hope to see you there!