



EXETER RAMBLING CLUB - 80 years old

Affiliated to HF Holidays and Ramblers

July 2018

Hello everyone,

What a wonderful summer we are having so far, weather-wise. We hope you have been enjoying the unusually fine, dry weather. Do remember to take lots of water with you when out walking on hot days, and a sun hat, and check for ticks afterwards. There are a lot of them about this year.



Welcome to new members

A warm welcome to new members and some who have re-joined after a period of absence. Membership numbers for this year are still low. We currently have 41 annual and 6 life members, making 47 in total. There's plenty of room for more, so please continue to promote our club whenever you can and invite friends, family members, colleagues and acquaintances to sample our walks. We love to see new faces.

Summer walking programme

Along with this newsletter you will find a new programme for the period August-October 2018. This offers another good selection of Sunday walks of between 8 and 12 miles, with the usual monthly Thursday walks with a pub lunch for those who now need something a bit shorter and slower. As always, many thanks to the leaders, and to Katherine for organising the programme.

Club outing 2018

As you may already be aware, there will be no club outing this year as we did not receive the minimum number of bookings that was necessary in order to make the trip financially viable. We are very sorry to disappoint those of you who did book and were looking forward to the trip. Please be assured that your cheques have been shredded. There will be a normal club walk on that day (Sunday 9th September) instead.

This does not mean that the club outing is dead. The committee will consider whether or not to offer a coach trip next year and would be very glad to hear your views on the matter. Have you enjoyed the coach trip in previous years? What deterred you from booking this year: the date, the venue, the cost or something else? Is there somewhere you'd love to go? Several people made venue suggestions this year that we were unable to take up for various reasons, the main one being that we try to ensure that the destination has something to offer the numerous different groups that now make up our club: those who want a long walk, those who want a shorter one and those who now just want to potter. It also has to be sufficiently far away to justify hiring a coach (rather than our usual car sharing arrangements), but near enough to get there and back comfortably in a day. That's a quite a lot of boxes to tick. If you have any ideas of places that might be suitable, please tell one of us. The club is here for you, its members, so please let us know what you want from it. You can send one of us an email, give us a call or just talk to us when out on a walk.

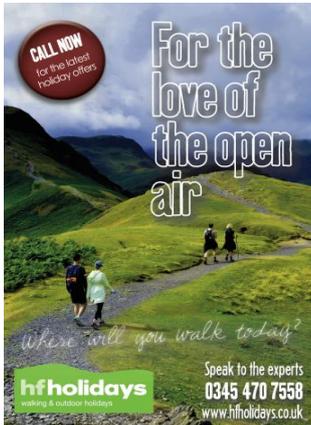
South West Coast Path – 40 years old

The South West Coast Path is half as old as our club! As we celebrate our 80th birthday in 2018, the coast path marks its 40th. The coast path divides us: some love it, others are not so enamoured, preferring our walks to be a little more on the wild side. If you're a fan of the path, you may like to know that along its 630 miles there are 230 bridges, 880 gates, 436 stiles, more than 4,000 Coast Path signs and over 30,000 steps. To help maintain these, and to mark its 40th birthday, the path has launched a campaign to raise £40,000 by the end of October: <https://www.southwestcoastpath.org.uk/love-the-coast-path/40-for-40>. A range of fundraising events is taking place, including a torchlit night walk on

Golden Cap: https://swcp.secure.force.com/membership/Challenge_registration

A reminder about our club sponsors

If you are booking a Ramblers Holiday, please consider nominating our club for a donation from The Walking Partnership. This scheme gives direct financial support to local walking clubs. Each time a club member books a UK, European or worldwide holiday with Ramblers Holidays, the club will receive a contribution. In order for us to receive this, you must nominate our group at the time of booking, so please look out for the logo and web link.



Would you like to contribute an item of news or advertise an event in a future newsletter? Please give any suggestions or contributions to Christabel or Janet.