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Hello....

Welcome to this edition of Relay in which, having recently returned from our first weekend away of the year, to Malhamdale, Angela tells us how it went.

We look forward to our next social event and another potential marathon walk, and it might be April but that doesn't stop us talking about snow....

Upcoming Social Event - *Escape from Kabul*

Date: Thursday 25th May Time: 1900 - 2100

Venue: Poppy and Pint, Pierrepont Road, NG2 5DX in the ground floor dining room

Members will recall with horror the shocking evacuation of eligible Afghans and families from Kabul in August 2021.

We are delighted that Rushcliffe Ramblers can welcome Najeem, a teacher of English, who qualified for the airlift with his wife and young family and with the help of a local charity has been resettled in Newark.

Najeem and many others are settling into life in the U.K. and he will give an insight into his previous life and the events of August 2021.

If you would like to come along, please email Hazel on social.hazel@rushclifferamblers.org

Ticket price is £3 per person

Numbers are limited to 40-45

Out and about....

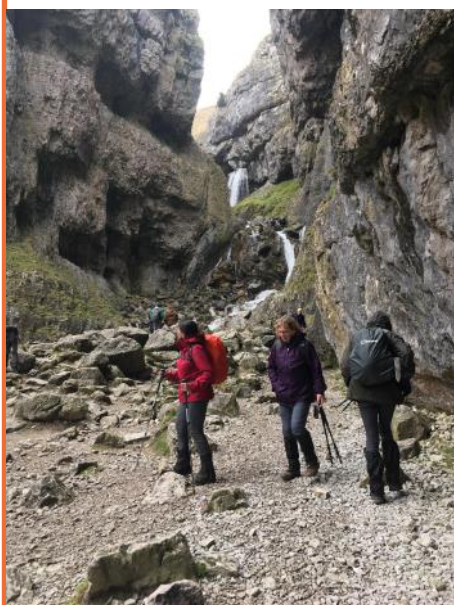


Malhamdale Weekend 31 March - 3 April, Angela's Report

As participants said:

'how are we going to follow that', 'the best ever weekend away' (with Rushcliffe Ramblers).

As you can gather from these comments, we had such a wonderful time. The scenery with far-reaching views along with the walks and walk leaders, Newfield Hall with its comfortable rooms, dedicated staff and its rural setting in the beautiful Dales, too much to eat and the weather. The weather was unbelievable. We left Nottingham with a forecast of 70% rain for most of the time we were away but the weather didn't read the forecast. The weekend started on the Friday with a grey afternoon but it was dry although a little wet and muddy underfoot. From then on, the weather just got better and by our last walks on the Monday around Skipton, it was wall-to-wall sunshine with beautiful blue skies. We were sooo lucky!



There was a wide variety of walks on offer from short 6-mile ones, one of which included a visit to the Ingleborough Caves, to the 11-mile climb up Ingleborough. This was a steady climb up giving 360 degrees views on a good part of the walk. The last pull to the top was quite steep with very little wind, in fact, mild enough to be able to sit on the top and eat our packed lunches. The return was via Gaping Gill and Trow Gill.



Julie writes: *The weather on the Friday walk was overcast but dry much to the relief of all concerned. We walked to the village of Calton and then on to see the falls at Foss Gill. Unfortunately, the stream was fast flowing and the rocks were slippery so we were unable to take the path to get a full view of the falls. A really good start to our walking weekend with the hope of better weather to come.*



The option I chose on the Sunday was for those who felt they couldn't quite manage to get up to the top of Ingleborough. However, it did provide its own challenges which were masterfully managed by all, spurred on by our excellent walk leader and the glorious sunshine which we experienced all day. We started in Clapham, through the dark tunnels of Ingleborough Hall which were used by servants and for deliveries to reach the Pennine Bridleway. Along the way we visited Crummack Dale, the limestone pavement with its clints (flat slabs) and grykes (fissures) and on to Trow Gill and the grounds of the Ingleborough Estate to finish with a drink in the Lake House Cafe and Bar. Approximately 10 miles.

Malhamdale Weekend 31 March - 3 April

(cont)

Tim writes: A pleasant Friday walk to a small waterfall and through villages. Only one steep climb which we did not need to do! A good short start to the weekend. The scone and tea on return was very refreshing.

Walk 2 on Saturday was a pleasant walk, through various villages to Kirkby Malham. We had coffee at the Quaker Meeting House, then walked across fell land to the village of Kirkby Malham and the Cathedral of the Dales. A very impressive church. An early lunch followed by a very steep climb out of the village before dropping back into Malham.

After that steep climb out of Kirkby Malham immediately after lunch yesterday I took the easy option on Sunday with Walk 1. This was a beautiful walk slowly climbing through the Ingleborough Estate with all its information boards with extra information added by Steve our leader. We visited the Ingleborough Caves and at £9 it was well worth paying to see these impressive caves. They were well lit but not touristy at all. Then further up the valley to Trow Gill, a short but steep climb on rocks. Finally, our route took us across fells to Gaping Gill and a dual carriageway stile. The pleasant return was down Long Track back into the village for a first-rate tea and cookie at The Old Sawmill Café.



On Saturday evening we enjoyed participating in a curling competition and after a closely fought event, Liz claimed first place. Well done, Liz!

As well as thanks to all those who helped to make this a wonderful weekend, special thanks to our own walk leaders who provided walks for us on the Friday and Monday, namely Hilary Pearson, Steve Naylor, Fiona Woodward and Karen Lewis.

All in all, we can say this was another successful weekend away for Rushcliffe Ramblers.



Upcoming Holiday News...

Summer 2023

There is still time to contact Angela if you fancy four nights in **Scotland** from 29th August. Full details are on our website.

Autumn 2023

This year we will be visiting Warwickshire for our Autumn Walking Weekend, where our base will be **Royal Leamington Spa**. There will be a choice of walks led by our own members on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. You will need to book your own accommodation so check our website for Karen's list or contact Karen directly at autumn@rushclifferamblers.org.

Spring 2024

Bookings are now being taken for our next spring weekend away to **Alnmouth**, on 22nd March 2024 for three nights.

- To book a room contact holidays@rushclifferamblers.org.
- A large number of the rooms are en-suite but there are a few without, instead having a shared bathroom with another room. They are still very comfortable rooms. Look at the links below to get a feel of the area and the walks we may be offered:
 - <https://www.hfholidays.co.uk/holidays-and-tours/guided-walking-alnmouth-3?format=pdf&vid=1327>
 - <https://www.hfholidays.co.uk/holidays-and-tours/guided-walking-alnmouth-3?format=pdf&vid=3488>

Summer 2024

To the Scilly Isles: a date will become available at the end of April. Places are limited and interest is high. Watch the website and RR Facebook page for details

Spring 2025

As is now the tradition, whilst we were at Newfield Hall in Malhamdale, we voted for our HF destination for 2025. After much lobbying and discussion, the winner was **Sedbergh** in Cumbria, situated between the Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District.

This is one of HF's smaller hotels so places will be limited. A date will be confirmed in spring 2024 when bookings will taken.

Wary of cows?

For those of us who are a bit wary of walking past cows, you might find this [video](#) useful. It demonstrates (using real cows!) what effect your actions may have as you walk past them and suggests the best way to do so without getting their attention.



Snow

In the last edition of Relay we featured an article on mud so it seems only appropriate this time to talk about snow, as one of our walks found quite a bit of it...



And it gives us the opportunity to play spot the (snow)ball - see if you can guess the location of Morag's snowball in this action shot (answer over page):



Spot the (snow)ball?

And the answer is:

(it's never where you think it is, is it?)



The walk was led by Mike on 12th March and started in Amber Valley climbing up through Shining Cliff Woods, skirting Alport Heights and returning through Belper and the Derwent Valley.



News from your Committee

⇒ **Would you like to help organise our trips away?**

- After a seriously long time, Angela is stepping back from this role in 2025 and we're looking for someone to take over the organising of our holidays. It could be one person replacing Angela or it could be a few people taking a holiday each.
- We generally have two weekends away each year with the Spring one booked through HF Holidays, plus a week-long holiday. Sometimes, though, Angela does throw in an extra one. Karen currently organises the Autumn weekend.
- If you are interested talk to Angela on a walk or email her on holidays@rushclifferamblers.org

⇒ **New Treasurer**

- After seven years of keeping the books, Keith has decided to hand in his ledger and quill in November. Anyone who is interested in taking up the reins can talk to Mike or email him at chair@rushclifferamblers.org.

⇒ **Electronic Banking**

- We can announce that after jumping through a number of administrative hoops, we are now using internet banking for all our transactions. We hope that this development will be welcomed and embraced by members as a quicker and more efficient means of payment. We have revised the existing payment protocol to take account of the new procedures.

⇒ **Expenses Form**

- We have revised the Expenses Form (dated March 2023) located on our website under the menu tabs 'Walks General Information' - 'Leading Walks'. Please use this form and delete any previous forms from your computer.



You Can Do More Than You Think You Can

Two years ago a small group of Rushcliffe Ramblers set off to walk a Marathon, 26.2 miles (see *Relay May 2021*).

This came out of the lockdowns and was something the kids were being encouraged to do through TikTok. At the time none of us knew whether we could rise to this challenge but we had a go and yes, we did it. Five of us set out and five of us got back. Do you have the staying power to undertake a similar challenge?

We are repeating the walk in the autumn of this year and are inviting a small number of Rushcliffe Ramblers to join us.

We'll walk the same route, as it is tried and tested and flat.

The date will be agreed nearer the time but is most likely to be a Tuesday on, hopefully, a good weather day. There will also be a few Tuesday 'training' sessions to learn the route.

Interested? Whetted your appetite?

Would like to have a go but unsure whether you can make it?

Contact: holidays@rushclifferamblers.org

Angela



WALK YOUR WAY

We know all the ingredients for a perfect hike. Discover extraordinary walking routes with comfortable stays in outstanding locations. Enjoy full-day walks alongside like-minded people and leave all the planning and navigation to us. It's what we do best.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK
VISIT: [HFHOLIDAYS.CO.UK/WALKING-CLUB](https://hfholidays.co.uk/walking-club)
CALL: 020 8732 1260

Book and travel with confidence. Please go online for our most up-to-date offers and prices plus full details: hfholidays.co.uk



Check our website for up-to-date news including details of upcoming walks:

www.rushclifferamblers.org