



Report for WCR Committee Meeting 21 Mar 2023



TREASURER REPORT FOR jan, feb, mar (to 6th) 2023 – John Shale

SELF FUNDED ACCOUNT

		IN	OUT	
OPENING BALANCE				£477.07
TROPHY	£2,023.00		£47.98	
RAMBLERS LUNCH		£476.00		
DONATION		£1.00		
BAL AT 06/03/23				£906.09

NOTES; £370.23 IS REF MARGARET LUBBOCK

FESTIVAL ACCOUNT

		IN	OUT	
OPENING BALANCE				£3,133.00
CRITICAL ART			£300.00	
BALANCE AT 06/03/23				£2,833.00

MAIN ACCOUNT

		IN	OUT	
OPENING BALANCE				£1,387.98
M M-W MILEAGE			£28.80	
HALL FOR WALK LEADER MEETING			£55.00	
RAMBLERS Q2 PAYMENT		£144.00		
NEW WEBSITE COSTS			£73.15	
A SEARLE CLEARANCE FUEL			£14.00	
BALANCE AT 06/03/23				£1,361.03



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Membership Secretary's report March 2023 – Andrew Swarbrick

After a rather quiet few months before Christmas, Jan-March so far has seen 12 new members, though 8 have also left. Current total members is 494.

I continue to write to welcome all new members and, of course, to send out email messages as and when required.

We currently have 8 members requiring posted copies of programmes and newsletters - and I post these when new items appear. I don't, however, post every email - as this would be impracticable and often would not arrive in time when posted 2nd Class.

Royal Mail have recently announced further price increases - second class stamps will be going up to 75p. I am still using stamps originally purchased rather more cheaply in 2020 and the stock should last for some time.

Walk Co-ordinator's Report – Deborah Quow

Attendance on walks (current programme)

The January to March walks programme is going well and numbers have been very good on most of the walks. Walk leaders have all submitted a short feedback email to me with numbers attended on each walk. Up until 12 March out of 19 walks, there were 3 walks where 30 or more attended, 8 where 20 – 27 attended, 4 where 10 – 18 attended and 4 where less than 10 attended.

Attendees No of walks

30+	=	3
20+	=	11
10+	=	15
-10	=	4

The 18 mile walk which was advertised to both WCR and LDWA managed to get a turnout of 18 and 2 of the 3 figure of 8 walks had particularly good numbers (always a lot more in the morning)!

April to June programme

17 walk leaders are contributing to a programme of 32 walks including 6 Tuesday walks. Two walks are afternoon walks, including an Easter Sunday walk.

Walk leaders' forum on 11 March

This went very well and was attended by 11 members, 2 of whom have already been registered and are leading walks for the current programme and one other who is already experienced and registered but not lead walks for us for a while. Therefore we have 8 completely new walk leaders who have all agreed to contribute to the July to September programme either to lead or co-lead a walk. (Each participant planned a walk individually or



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as part of a pair and submitted it in written form or has agreed to email me with it. We used paper OS maps, leaflets, books etc to plan their walks and some were keen to get to know how to use the OS app on their phone or computer).

The evaluation forms were completed anonymously and by 9 of the 11 participants. (I suspect a couple completed one together and one participant had to leave just as I was handing out the forms to go on duty as a coastguard rescue officer). All responses were positive or very positive.

It would be good to make this an annual event with perhaps different emphases each year. It has been suggested that we open it up to all walk leaders next year and use it to share good practice and looks at 'issues', new developments, and ways of improving our walk offers as well as being an opportunity to get together as a homogenous group, which we are not usually able to do.

New Walks Manager system at Ramblers

I have agreed to be the key contact at WCR in my role as walks co-ordinator to support the move from GWEM to the new Walks Manager system.

Publicity Report March 2023 - Lee Pickup

Copy date for the South East Walker 12/4/2023 for the June issue.

Not a lot to report.

As agreed in the last meeting articles to be sent for June issue are:

The Walk Leaders Forum.

Plans for walking week in July.

Facebook page now has 388 members with requests to join coming in on a regular basis.

PROW NEWS –MARCH UPDATES – Roger King

1. Proposed new footpath between Eastry and Hammill

A rare claim by Hugh Craddock that would not be useable by horses – and it's being given priority status by KCC. This new footpath would leave Gore Lane, near Eastry Primary School, at GR306 550. Heading westwards across country it would terminate on the lane south of the old brickworks site at GR 290 555. At about a mile long, this would be a very useful addition to the PROW network.

2. Claimed new bridleways and byway in Barham parish

Although just outside the White Cliffs territory, Barham is a parish in which we do walk from time to time. Mr Craddock is claiming:



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(a) an upgrade to bridleway of the two footpaths (CB289 which becomes CB291) which lead southwards from almost opposite the old Bishopsbourne station. They run for something like a mile and a quarter to Pheasant Hall Road at GR 178 506.

(b) a new byway open to all traffic, running for some 300 yards from Dane Farm at GR 176 479, north-westwards along a track in the direction of Palmstead, to Peafield Wood Road at GR 174 480.

3. Local Development Issues

New news this month includes:

- Sholden – new housing between the A257 London Road and Mongeham Road. Application resubmitted under DDC Planning ref 23/00111. KCC PROW are accepting of the proposed route of ED39 in an open/green corridor through the site, but have made representations re surfacing etc. Meanwhile the developer has lodged an appeal that DDC have been acting too slowly in determining the issue – the whole of which is of course opposed by locals.
- Waldershare Deer Park: full details can be found under Dover DC Planning ref 22/01567. The last month has seen changes to the boundaries of the proposed park, plus more details of gates on PROW. However Tilmanstone Parish Council in particular are still not happy about the effect on PROW, especially the NDW.

4. England Coast Path – problem at N Foreland Golf Club at last resolved?

It appears that after more than 5 years of wrangling, the issue of fencing the Path alongside the North Foreland Golf Club may have been resolved. If so, we can hopefully look forward to Ramsgate-Whitstable section of the Path being finally open this summer.

There is no new news this month on the many PROW change issues still live - in Alkham, Goodnestone, Bishopsbourne, Nonington, Shepherdswell and Staple. But for more details of these and any other PROW issues, please contact Roger King on 01304 362730, or by email at roger.rambler89@outlook.com



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Vegetation Clearance Report – John Shale

DATE	PATH NUMBER	LOCATION	SLASHERS	MAN HRS TOTAL	REPORT	KCC	REPORT
05/01/2023	TE9 & TE11	MANSTON	DG	2	DG	NIL	JS
	(TE8 TREE)	MONKTON	N/A			NIL	
	TE18	MONKTON	AS JT	2	AS	NIL	JS
12/01/2023	NIL	#	#	#	#	#	#
19/01/2023	PERMISSIVE PATH	CAPEL LE FERNE	DG AS ST	7.5	AS	NIL	JS
26/01/2023	ER205/1	CHURCH HOUGHAM	AS DG	4	AS	NIL	JS
02/02/2023	HE67	BLADBEAN	JP ST AS	1	AS ALREADY DONE		N/A
"	EE90	ASH	JT LP JS GW	2	JT	NIL	JS
09/02/2023	EE60/1	ASH	ST AS	3	AS	NIL	JS
	EE63A	ASH	"		"	NIL	JS
	EE317/A	NONINGTON	LP JT	2	LP/JT	NIL	JS
16/02/2023	ER14	RINGWOULD	AS ST DG	6	AS	NIL	JS, AS
23/02/2023	ER177/8	ALKHAM	JP AS DG ST	7	AS/JP	NIL	JS, AS
02/03/2023	TE27/1	PLUCKS GUTTER	DG	2	DG	NIL	JS
	TE37	MINSTER	ST AS JT	4.5	AS	NIL	JS



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Parish Footpath Observers (PFO) Coordinators Report - Margaret Milsted-Williamson.

There are 53 parishes within our patch and since this time last year I have been trying to fill them all with willing volunteers. Until very recently 39 had been filled. Unfortunately, one person who had responsibility for 12 parishes recently resigned. To date I have managed to recruit quite a few more volunteers and hopefully by the time of the meeting on the 24th (see below) we will have all parishes covered.

The 2nd meeting for PFOs will take place on 24th March at the Duke of Cumberland, and Heather Waller has accepted an invitation to join us. Heather is the Public Footpath Officer at KCC covering Dover and Thanet.

Social Secretary Report - Anne Hickey

1. There will be a WCR Annual Lunch at The Rising Sun, Stourmouth, 12.30 for 1pm. 32 people have booked so far. There are some places left if you or any member you know are interested. If so I would appreciate your lunch choice soon. Payment by 18th March. An updated email with all details was sent out by Andrew on 15th Feb.

2. A June date for your diary: On Friday 23rd June, I have booked Skittles and a buffet at the Chance pub, Dover Rd., Guston, Dover, CT15 5EW. start at 6.30pm. Tel 01304 206162. This is somewhere we used to play at, the games and venue being enjoyed by beginners and experienced players alike. Do come along. Notification will be sent to all.

3. A September date for your diary: The redoubtable Colin, very ably assisted by Rhona, will be quizzing us at our Wine & Wisdom evening. Meet at the 5 Bells, The Cross, Eastry, near Sandwich, CT13 OHX. Date: Friday 29th September, Start: 7pm. What normally happens is that Mary the landlady does not charge us for the hire of the room provided we eat there. So we would plan to have supper about 7.45pm, then resume the quiz. Tables of 6 suggested with participants letting me know they would like to participate. Presents to be won.

Anyone with ideas for activities they would love to share with others or try for the first time, I would be happy to discuss.