

## WALKERS ARE WELCOME ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Town: .....Hebden Bridge.....

*To maintain your status as a Walkers are Welcome town, please send this report by email to the WaW Secretary [andrew@andrewbibby.com](mailto:andrew@andrewbibby.com) by 31 March 2010.*

1. Please use the space below to summarise the main activities you have undertaken in 2009 to ensure that your town/village continues to be one where walkers are welcome. *Please relate what you write to the six WaW criteria.*

Our main event in 2009 was the Walkers are Welcome weekend, which we held on 12-13 Sep. This was our first attempt to arrange a mini-walking festival, and generally we felt it went well. About 30 walks were arranged, with attendance from a handful to approaching twenty. We also organised two evening events, one with Kate Ashbrook as speaker. Disappointingly, this didn't attract the crowds we'd hoped. Our town council gave us a grant of £400 for the event.

We reprinted our 3 Waymarked Trails guide, which has sold extremely well since we launched the waymarked trails initiative. Our 'gentle walking' leaflet has gone out of print, and we will have to consider whether we can bring this back into print during 2010.

We were disappointed that our representations regarding a blocked footpath (made in conjunction with a local parish council) were not taken more seriously by our council, Calderdale. This may be one which got away...

Our website continues to be regularly updated, and to attract many visitors.

We have supplied WaW stickers to a number of (new) local businesses, which have approached us for them. Many shops continue to display the stickers.

2. If you have undertaken any initiatives which you feel are particularly innovative and which might be of interest to other Walkers are Welcome towns/villages, please give details below.

After the various initiatives of 2007 and 2008, we consolidated a little in 2009, but we feel that some of our ideas for our walking festival (eg walks in French and Spanish) were quite innovative.

3. What funding have you been able to obtain? Have you any evidence of ways in which WaW status is helping your community, your local economy?

£400 from Hebden Royd Town Council.

Hebden Bridge continues to get good publicity as the first WaW town; it featured in Autumn 2009 on a BBC You & Yours feature on the scheme.

4. The Walkers are Welcome principle is a 'bottom-up' one, operating on the basis of mutual support and activity. What contributions are you making towards developing the network, nationally and/or regionally? (*eg: attendance at conference, mentoring other towns*)

Strong commitment to WaW. National secretary of network is our chair.  
Attendance at conference.

Declaration

We wish to apply for continuation of our status as a Walkers are Welcome town/village. We have sent a cheque for our annual membership to the Walkers are Welcome treasurer.

Name: Andrew Bibby

Organisation: Hebden Bridge Walkers Action

*Note: Annual returns will normally be posted on the WaW website, so that others are aware of each town's achievements. Please advise us if for any reason you would rather that this form was not made public.*