

WALKERS ARE WELCOME ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Town: MOFFAT

To maintain your status as a Walkers are Welcome town, please send this report by email to the WaW Secretary 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.*

We continue to organize our Annual Walking Festival, this being our 10th Anniversary.

We have active walking groups in the Town. Two groups walk every week and keep us advised of any problems on local walks so that we can get these corrected through local access officers and rangers. We also have a ranch of the Ramblers based in Moffat

We ensure signposts are replaced etc. when needed.

We have recently embarked on a revamp of the Walking section of our VisitMoffat.co.uk website and intend to develop a new catalogue of walks which can be downloaded. Our local Visitor Information Centre will also offer this facility.

We were part of the implementation team for the new long distance walk from the Devil's Beef Tub north of Moffat, to the Solway at Annan, following the River Annan as far as possible. This has been called the Annandale Way. We have been asked to provide the information booklets to ensure future usage.

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.

We have embarked on a project to coordinate accommodation along the route of the Annandale Way. It is a 3-4 day walk and walkers will want to ensure that their luggage can be moved along the route for them.

We hope to arrange an online booking system for our Walking Festival.

We are discussing the possibility of undertaking research on the success of our walking initiatives with a local University.

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?

The Initiative has attracted funding of £17,500 towards its core running costs and this allows us to support walking in general and produce some printed material, arrange meetings, etc.

We have been offered funding of about £3,500 towards our project to coordinate accommodation providers along the route of the Annandale Way.

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)*

I am a member of the National Steering Group, Treasurer of the national body, maintain membership records, distribute window stickers and act as mentor for the whole of Scotland.

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:

Geoff Kitt

Organisation:

Moffat and District Community Initiative

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.