

**WALKERS ARE WELCOME ANNUAL REPORT 2011  
TOWN - Wiveliscombe**

**1. Please use the space below to summarise the main activities you have undertaken in 2010 to ensure that your town/village continues to be one where walkers are welcome.**

*We organise two regular walks per month. One walk is a circular walk from Wiveliscombe, the other sharing transport to another area. All walks are open to everyone, no booking and no fees. During the past year our numbers have increased considerably and often on the circular walk from Wiveliscombe we have had to split into two groups, with two leaders. One group takes the published walk and the other does the walk in reverse. We aim to meet together to lunch. At the end of the walk we all gather in the local public house for tea and cake.*

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

*We organised a "Wivey Way Day" which was widely advertised throughout Somerset and neighbouring counties. 50 - 60 people went on led walks - some completing the 23 miles of the Wivey Way and the remainder half of the route. Other people walked individually following the information in the local walks book produced by two members of the group.*

*A walk is organised during the annual "10 Parishes Festival" and also a walk is provided during the "Twinning Week" when the French and German towns twinned with Wiveliscombe visit the town.*

*We will be taking a stand at the local street market/fair to publicise Walkers are Welcome and Wivey Walkers. Copies of Wiveliscombe Walks book to be available.*

**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?**

*We organise occasional walks with lunch provided by a member of our group. No charge is made but donations are requested. The monies raised are shared equally between Wivey Walkers and Wivey Link (a rural mini-bus service organised by the community for the residents of Wiveliscombe and outlying areas).*

*As mentioned in No 1, we meet together for tea in the local public house. We have also used the rural bus service to travel to a village further afield prior to walking back to Wiveliscombe. The bus drivers are also delighted when we get onto their buses as it boosts their numbers. A booklet on "bus walks" (nine different walks) is in the process of being written and it is hoped that this will be published locally.*

*Members of the group have become aware of a growing number of people walking from Wiveliscombe and this benefits the local economy as they use the shops, cafes and public houses.*

*Whilst out walking we maintain footpaths as appropriate by clipping back overgrown undergrowth, brambles etc. It is becoming evident that the local footpaths are being used more frequently.*

**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?**

*An adjacent town, Dunster, has recently become WaW accredited having heard about our accreditation last year. We have been in contact with each other and have discussed the possibility of joint projects and mutual support in the future.*

*Two delegates from Wiveliscombe attended the last Annual Conference.*

*All our activities are advertised in the Ten Parishes Magazine, Wiveliscombe Messenger, Community House and on the notice board in The Square. Reports and photographs are also published following the various walks.*

*Ann Scotter  
Wiveliscombe Walkers*