

WALKERS ARE WELCOME ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Town: ...Richmond.....

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.*

The Richmond Swale Valley Community Initiative (RSVCI) have:

- 6. Continued to coordinate Walking activities through the RSVCI Landscape Partnership Group with representatives from Town, District and County Councils, Yorkshire Dales National Park, English Heritage, National Trust, and Swaledale Outdoor Club.
- 3. Worked with the North Yorkshire County Council Footways and Richmondshire District Council to improve the Coast to coast footpath and other paths. Footpaths walked regularly and inspected.
- 5. Delivered 2009 Walking and Book Festival – 2,500 tickets sold for walks and evening events, 40 guided walks over 10 days. For the Walking Festival offered clear advice on public transport to and from walks.
- Continued to display WaW signs in local shops and attractions.

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.

- launched Audio guide to accompany the town trail. The audio guide works from 40 MP3 players with a recorded, menu led commentary to add another layer of interpretation to our town trail
- started Walking for Health Initiative. This initiative has a part time coordinator and was started in 2009 and launched last week. So far we have 20 walkers and 6 walk leaders trained.
- new Nature Trail. We have installed a new nature trail in the Swale Valley woodland in Richmond with four attractive interpretation panels and a leaflet.

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?

- 2009 Walking and Book Festival (£25k – Arts Council, sponsorship and ticket sales).
- Audio trail (£35k funded by HLF)
- Walking for Health Initiative (£20k funded by Comic Relief and Local Strategic Partnership)
- Nature Trail (£16k funded by the Rural Target Fund).

- 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*)
- Attended conference
- Discussed their application with Leyburn

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:

Organisation:

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.