



# WALKERS ARE WELCOME

Newsletter 7 January 2011

## Royal Weddings not your cup of tea?

Then take yourself off to Tregaron in mid Wales from 29 April–2 May to take part in their inaugural walking festival and the Legs 11 challenge, the world's first mobile game of bingo! Tregaron may be one of our newer members, but they certainly aren't short of ideas.

[www.walktregaron.co.uk](http://www.walktregaron.co.uk)

## Otley Walkers are ace

Otley Walkers were named as club of the month in December's edition of The Great Outdoors, with WAW getting a mention too. Well done Otley! If your town wins acclaim, please let us know.

## Funding tips

- An EU initiative, Coast-alive, is trying to get more people out enjoying the North Sea coast. Existing or aspiring WAW towns on the Norfolk, Lincolnshire and North York Moors NP coasts may like to check out [www.coast-alive.eu](http://www.coast-alive.eu) to see if there is any funding available.
- House builders and utility companies often have funds for environmental and social projects, so look out for work starting in your area. One WAW town gained £2000 from National Grid towards their walking festival.

## How are you coping?

In the next newsletter we want to focus on how WAW towns are coping with local authority budget cuts. If your town or village is being affected, please let us know how you are trying to tackle it and what success you have (or haven't) had.

## Walking Festivals and events

Don't forget to send us your dates.

## News wanted

If you have anything for the next newsletter or the website, email it to: [Sheila.talbot@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:Sheila.talbot@tiscali.co.uk) (newsletter) [advice@kingsbridgeinfo.co.uk](mailto:advice@kingsbridgeinfo.co.uk) (website)

## Welcome to 2011

The National Committee would like to wish WAW towns and villages all the best for a successful year. There is no doubt that 2011 is going to be tough, as the government cuts begin to bite and people find themselves with less spare cash at the end of each month. Local businesses are going to need all the help they can get to attract customers and that is where the WAW network can help.

By making your town welcoming and making it easy for locals and visitors to find walks to suit them, you are more likely to attract people to the area. Petrol costs mean more people will be attracted to walking close to home rather than driving then paying to go to a visitor attraction many miles away. The more you can do to promote the WAW network of towns, the better it will be for every town.

## It's that time of the year again!

Yes folks, it's time for annual subscriptions and annual reports. Hopefully you have all received a reminder email from our Treasurer Geoff Kitt. Just download and complete the simple report form on the website and send it to the Secretary, then pop a cheque in the post to Geoff. Let's see if we can get this completed by the end of February, so that the committee doesn't have to waste time chasing you up.

The annual reports are very useful for the committee to see how you are all getting on, we also learn about the many good ideas that we can share with other towns. It is also good for you to take stock of your achievements over a full year and many of you will be surprised how much you have done. It is also a good time to think about what you would like to achieve in the coming year. The reports will be added to the website so that you can see what other towns have been up to.

## Working together

The fact that we are all part of a network of towns and villages that is growing month by month means there are numerous opportunities for us to work together for mutual benefit. Here are some ideas that you could adopt in 2011:

- If there are several other WAW towns nearby, combine resources to promote all the WAW towns in the area, whether it is leaflets, show stands or walking festivals.
- Invite another WAW town to visit you for a walking weekend, then pay a return visit.
- Ask a neighbouring WAW town to visit and provide you with constructive feedback, then do the same for them.
- Offer to act as a mentor for newly affiliated towns.

[www.walkersarewelcome.org.uk](http://www.walkersarewelcome.org.uk)

Hebden Bridge – Moffat – Prestatyn – Mytholmroyd – Church Stretton – Bishop's Castle – Richmond - Market Weighton - Kilsyth - Cilgerran – Pentrefoelas – Otley - Rhuddlan – Tadcaster – Martley – Deal - Penmaenmawr - Haltwhistle – Llanfairfechan – Holywell – Kirkby Stephen – Winchcombe – Llandrindod Wells – Pickering – Ross-on-Wye – Ilkley – Llandysul & Pont Tyweli – Malvern – Kingsbridge – Leyburn – Llangollen – Wiveliscombe – Newton Stewart – Huntly – Pateley Bridge – Corby – Tomintoul – Chesham – Marsden – Bradfield – Cleobury Mortimer – Dunster – Hayle – Kirkintilloch – Longborough – Wellington – Knaresborough – Melrose – Kings Stanley & Leonard Stanley – Dufftown – Guisborough, - Tregaron – Pocklington – Bromyard – Devils Bridge - Market Rasen