



WALKERS ARE WELCOME

Newsletter 5 September 2010

Julia Bradbury praises WaW

One of the newer WaW towns invited TV presenter and Ramblers President Julia Bradbury to their launch. Unfortunately she was unable to attend but she sent a letter praising the WaW concept. The letter is on the [WaW website](#).

Walking Festivals are blossoming

With more people choosing to holiday at home and so many TV programmes extolling the virtues of walking, no wonder the number of walking festivals is increasing. WaW towns seem to be leading the way, with new festivals in towns such as Winchcombe and Pateley Bridge and others like Richmond growing bigger every year. Make sure you let us know about yours.

Keep plugging WaW

Don't forget to mention the WaW network in all your publicity and press releases, quoting the [website](#) address. Also, bring examples of your publicity to the conference and we can all share ideas.

Google Alerts

To check how much publicity your town or event is getting, why not sign up to [Google Alerts](#) for daily or weekly email updates. They are free, easy to set up and can be cancelled at any time.

News wanted

If you have anything for the next newsletter, email it to:
Sheila.talbot@tiscali.co.uk

Now we are 50!

August 2010 saw the Walkers are Welcome network of towns pass the 50 mark. There are now 52 towns and villages across Britain, with many more working hard to join by the end of the year. In 2007 when Hebden Bridge became the first Walkers are Welcome town and other towns were invited to join a network, nobody dared to dream that it would grow so quickly. What a shame we can't all get together for a party!

The full list of network members can be found at the bottom of this newsletter, in the order of joining. Why not find out more about the other towns and villages in the network by checking the WaW website from time to time.

It is amazing how much you can learn from other towns, whether it is how they are organising a walking festival, how they managed to get funding, or what sort of information they have on their website. You may also spot towns or villages in your county or landscape area that you may be able to work with and share costs for things like marketing.

The national WaW committee will be sending out a press release soon, to tell people about our success to date.

Book your places at the WaW Annual Conference

The 4th Annual [Walkers are Welcome Conference](#) will be hosted by Kilsyth, Lanarkshire on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th October. The full programme and booking form is now available on the WaW website. Please try to book before the end of September to help with planning. All WaW towns and villages are encouraged to send at least one representative. Of course, prospective new members are also very welcome to attend. One of the workshops is on gaining accreditation.

The theme of this year's conference is regeneration, which is relevant to so many of our towns, including Kilsyth.

The WaW conferences are always a great opportunity to network with other towns, share ideas and join in workshops. This year there is a variety of topics on offer, from funding & marketing to walking for health.

The venue this year is Colzium House, which is a Victorian mansion set in landscaped grounds that was gifted to the people of Kilsyth back in 1937.

One thing is certain, you will all be given a very warm welcome and have some fun!

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 -
Clebury Mortimer - Dunster - Hayle - Kirkintilloch - Longborough - Wellington - Knaresborough - Melrose
Kings Stanley & Leonard Stanley - Dufftown - Guisborough - Tregaron