

OADBY HILL WALKING CLUB NEWSLETTER



April 2026

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Club Announcements

Walking Routes

Can all club members look at the walking routes available on the OHWC website <https://www.oadbyhillwalkingclub.com>, and also on the club WhatsApp group prior to joining each month's coach trip, so the walk list can be passed round the coach more efficiently please. Each month's walk routes are put up on the club website in the week before the monthly walk.

Walking Boots

Club members are reminded that when joining club walks, they must wear walking boots with ankle support. The only exception to this rule is if club members have a valid medical reason for not wearing boots with ankle support.

2026/2027 Monthly Walk Destinations

Adam Wakley has recently published the monthly OHWC walk destinations for May 2026 to April 2027. They are:

- 03 May 2026 High Bradfield, Yorkshire
- 07 June 2026 Hayfield, Derbyshire
- 05 July 2026 Algreave, Cheshire
- 02 August 2026 Dursley, Gloucestershire
- 06 September 2026 Langsett, Yorkshire
- 04 October 2026 Longnor, Staffordshire Peak District
- 01 November 2026 Long Shawlodge, Peak District
- 06 December 2026 Biggin, Derbyshire Peak District
- 03 January 2027 Wirksworth, Derbyshire
- 07 February 2027 Kingsley Holt, Leek
- 07 March 2027 Taddington, Derbyshire Peak District
- 04 April 2027 Andoversford, Cotswolds

OHWC Annual General Meeting

Conservative Club, Wigston - 25th April 2026

This year's OHWC Annual General Meeting will be held on 25th April 2026 at the Wigston & District Conservative Club at 38 Long Street, Wigston. Unchanged from last year, food and skittles will be provided. The AGM Agenda has been communicated to all OHWC members by the club's secretary, and all club members are encouraged to attend so they can vote on matters pertaining to the club's set-up and future administration.

Safeguarding

The OHWC is committed to safeguarding in line with national legislation, and national and local guidelines. We ensure safeguarding by ensuring our club is run in a way which keeps our club members safe.

We all have a responsibility to safeguard adults and young people who are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse and neglect.

The OHWC is committed to creating a culture of zero tolerance of harm to our club members which necessitates:

- the recognition of club members who may be at risk and the circumstances which may increase risk.
- knowing how abuse, exploitation or neglect manifests itself.
- and being willing to report safeguarding concerns.

The OHWC Safeguarding Policy and associated procedures apply to all individuals who are involved in the OHWC, including the committee and the walk leaders, to all concerns about the safety of club members whilst taking part in club activities, and in the wider community.

All club members are encouraged to report any safeguarding concerns, no matter how trivial they seem to the club at OHWCsafeguarding@gmail.com. All such communications will be treated as strictly in-confidence and will be investigated thoroughly.

The OHWC Safeguarding Policy and Guidance document is on the club website at <https://www.oadbyhillwalkingclub.com/safeguarding.html>.

Charitable Endeavours

Tim & Elaine Akers, and Clare Savage: 26 Mile Mighty Hike around the Gower Peninsula for Macmillan Cancer Support – 27th June 2026

Tim, Elaine, and Clare are walking 26 miles around the Gower Peninsula in Wales to help people living with cancer. This will be Elaine and Clare's seventh Macmillan Mighty Hike, and Tim's third.

The Gower Peninsula was the first place in Britain to be named a National Landscape with its sweeping beaches and beautiful cliffs. Elaine, Tim & Clare are starting their Mighty Hike in the ruins of Penrice Castle before walking clockwise around the peninsula, past Oxwich Bay Beach and Port Eynon Beach before circling back to Penrice Castle.

Elaine is walking this year in memory of her eldest brother Steve, who sadly passed away last in July last year aged 68 after a very sudden diagnosis of oesophageal cancer. Clare is also taking on this challenge in memory of Steve.

Tim is doing the Mighty Hike in memory of his brother-in-Law Steve, and in memory of his first wife Kim, who passed away in June 2007 at the age of 42 from a metastasis of breast cancer in her liver, lungs and brain.

Macmillan Cancer Support is a registered charity in England and Wales (261017) and has spent more than 100 years helping people living with cancer. From the moment someone is diagnosed with cancer, they are there with all the information, support and guidance needed, to help everyone with cancer live life as fully as they can. From personal experience, they were a massive support during and after Steve's and Kim's final illnesses.

Further information on the amazing work Macmillan Cancer Support does may be found [here](#).

Elaine and Clare are still setting up their JustGiving pages for people to sponsor them. Please contact them privately for details.

Tim's JustGiving page is here: [Tim Akers's Gower Peninsula Mighty Hike JustGiving sponsorship page](#).

Elaine, Tim & Clare are hugely grateful for any sponsorship received from Club members.

Lake District Trip - May2027

Derwentwater Hotel, Lake District, May 2027

The committee are pleased to confirm that we've taken the last rooms available in the Patterdale Hotel for our May 2026 trip. There are now 22 club members in the group.

There are now 28 members going to the Derwentwater Hotel in May 2027. There may still be some availability if other club members wish to attend the party. Telephone Alfa Travel on 01257 248000 should you wish to make enquiries.

April's Mid-Month Local Walk with Colin New

Sunday 26th April – Bluebell Woods

Colin would like all interested walkers to meet him at the Meet at Forest Hill Golf Club Car Park (Markfield Lane, Botcheston, Leicester LE9 9FH) at 9.30 am.

Colin says it's fine to use the Golf Club facilities, but please make sure your shoes/boots are clean before entering the clubhouse.

The walk is approximately eight to nine miles long, going through Markfield Village, then on to follow the track around Thornton Reservoir. Colin recommends bringing snacks and drinks for the walk, although the Golf Club offers hot and cold drinks, snacks (possibly including cake), and Sunday lunch.

April's Walk Report by Gail Butler

Ironbridge, Shropshire Sunday 12th April 2026

We arrived at our bus stop in Wellington on the outskirts of Telford just after 10am. Then it was like the start of the Grand National with 4 of the 5 walks piling off the coach and jockeying for position on the pavement before setting off in two separate directions. The long walkers got a head start on the rest of the field, followed by our Eleven Mile group led by Barri cracking the whip. Adam and Karl's walks set off in the opposite direction only to meet us again at the underpass to the M54. There was much fraternising between the groups as we headed off on the Telford T50 Fifty Mile Trail / Shropshire Way together.





The three groups collected at the foot of the steep climb up the Wrekin. Needless to say, some were faster up the hill than others. We climbed through a few showers necessitating waterproof jackets and storm shields, but our lucky group emerged on the summit as the rain abated. We were treated to glorious views of the Shropshire countryside awash with the yellow of oil seed rape.

The descent from the Wrekin could have been hazardous due the slope, slippery mud and gravel underfoot but we took extra care and time to arrive safely at the bottom. We then turned east along a narrow lane heading towards Little Wenlock.

Our walk leader, Barri wanted to minimise walking on tarmac and keep the mileage up, so we took a detour at Spring Cottage. This was a much less used pathway and proved difficult to follow, a team effort was required to identify the way. We then followed a sunken path which was more of a stream for what seemed like ages.

Eventually we emerged onto a farm track before returning to the lane for a short time. Later than planned we reached our lunch stop at Little Wenlock church just as Karl and Adam's groups were finishing their lunch and with a little encouragement, they vacated the seating for us.



Moving off down the road and over fields we got to the Rope Walk through Loamhole Dingle. The wood here was awash with bluebells and wild garlic, a very pretty and fragrant area. Unlike the other groups we then headed southwest aiming to pick up the Severn Way up stream of Ironbridge.

Unfortunately, we found the path blocked by a very sturdy fence, so we had to climb another fence to get on the pavement along the road into Ironbridge. Having changed our boots, we squeezed into the White Hart for about an hour's relaxation with a well-earned pint.

On the coach journey home, we appreciated the view of a beautiful double rainbow, a lovely way to finish the day.

Thanks to Barri for leading our walk.



May's Monthly Walk: High Bradfield – Yorkshire

Sunday 3rd May 2026

Coach departs: Oadby Central Car Park (adjacent to the Trinity Methodist Church) at **8.00am sharp**.

Please note: The coach will leave the pub at **5.30pm**.

Coach Route:

M1 north to J29, A617 west to Chesterfield. A61 north, B6068 west, B6375 west, A625 west, A6187 west, A6013 north. A57 east, A6101 east, B6077 west and on to Loxley Road.

Boot stop: Tibshelf Services



Pub: [The Old Horns Inn, High Bradfield](#)

Map: [OS Explorer OL1](#): OS Map of The Peak District - Dark Peak Area

Walk Leaders:

- Kevin (Long)
- A. Beckett (12 miles)
- K. Pochin (12 miles)
- A. Wakley (10 miles)
- J. Bastow (short)

Booking Trips: When booking onto monthly and mid-month walks, please **only** use the club email rather than phone, text or word of mouth.

Coach Fare: Preferably by BACS to the bank details given at the end of this Newsletter.

- Adult Members **£18**
- Guests **£20**
- Junior/Student Members **£12**

Cancellations - members and guests

- Cancellations up to Tuesday midnight before the Sunday walk - no penalty.
- Cancellations thereafter - the full cost of the bus fare is due.

Prospective Walkers

If you have not put your name down on the last coach trip, please contact ohwcmal@gmail.com to book a seat on the bus this month, prior to making a payment. You will receive a reply confirming the availability or otherwise of a seat. Please note that it is first come first served.

If you delay booking, you may not get a seat. Please do not turn up without booking and receiving confirmation that you have a place.

You must book a place on the coach in advance, or you may not be allowed to go on as it picks up at various places on the ring road members who have already booked a seat.

If you wish to be picked up from other places than Oadby Car Park, please mention where at time of booking and please be aware that very occasionally another Orbit coach may go past before ours arrives.

Walk Reminder

Essential information for all OHWC walks can be found on the OHWC Website [here](#). Please ensure that you carry your completed Club Safety Form in the top pocket of your rucksack - it could help you in a difficult situation. N.B. Don't forget to keep the form up to date. The form is available on the Club Website [here](#).

Walk Route Map

Please go onto the News section of the Club website [here](#) a few days before the monthly walk, to see a map showing the walk routes. Hopefully, this will speed up selecting your walk when signing up on the coach. The club has four OS maps available for Walk Leaders to use when leading walks.

Boot/Toilet Stop

Members are urged to keep the time taken at the boot stop to a minimum. At the end of the walk members should change their footwear and place dirty boots and rucksacks in the luggage locker before getting onto the coach, thus avoiding any congestion and mud in the coach.

Please do not wear dirty boots on the coach.

Those getting off the coach at Fosse Park and the Ring Road may alternatively put your dirty kit into a plastic bag and then take it onto the coach; thus, negating having to search for your gear in the bus luggage lockers.

Essential Wear

Members and guests must be suitably equipped. As a minimum this must include:

- Suitable waterproof walking boots that have adequate ankle support
- Waterproof coat and over-trousers
- Warm clothing
- An appropriate rucksack.
- Food and drink for the whole day
- For winter walking, all members are to carry a serviceable head torch in their rucksacks.
- A First Aid Kit is recommended

N.B. Jeans and trainers/sandals are NOT suitable. If you are not properly equipped for hillwalking, you may not be able to participate. Only Registered Assistance Dogs are allowed on club walks, except on mid-month walks at the discretion of the Walk Leader.

Cotswold Outdoors Discount Card for Club Members

Once again, Cotswold Outdoors has allowed all Club members to apply for a Discount Card. This discount is for the personal use of club members only and must not be shared with others.

Club members benefit from:

- 15% discount in-store and online,
- Expertise, advice and guidance,

- Sustainability services,
- Explore More membership.

OHWC discount

OHWC Club Members will receive a 15% discount on full-priced items (excludes electronics and selected lines) both in-store and online with Cotswold Outdoor, Runners Need and Snow+Rock. The code to use is **AF-RAMBLERS-W9C**.

This discount is strictly for personal use only and must not be shared with non-club members. Cotswold Outdoors reserve the right to amend or cancel it with immediate effect if they find this code has been leaked to unauthorised persons in any way.

Explore More

Club members will need to sign up for their free Explore More benefits scheme to use the discount. This comes with its own benefits such as a 3-year warranty, a 100-day returns policy, Price Match Promise and much more! Members can sign up through any of the following brands:

- [Cotswold Outdoor](#)
- [Runners Need](#)
- [Snow+Rock](#)

Expertise, advice and guidance

The best way to tap into their outdoor expertise is for Club Members to book an in-store appointment at Cotswold Outdoor, Runners Need or Snow+Rock. This ensures one of our store specialists is on hand to help you get the best kit for your adventure.

Alternatively, Cotswold Indoor has a whole host of blogs online in our Advice & Inspiration areas. These include kit guides, itinerary ideas, inspirational stories and suggestions on how to be more sustainable. You can find these below:

- [Cotswold Outdoor](#)
- [Runners Need](#)
- [Snow+Rock](#)

Sustainability Services

For us the outdoors is everything, and across our three brands, we do everything we can to look after it for generations to come.

As a company, Cotswold Outdoors are working to become more sustainable, and they want to help their customers do their bit too. The services they offer to help with this are available across all their stores:

- [Make The Right Choice](#)
- [Care and Proofing](#)
- [Recycle My Gear](#)
- [Recycle My Run](#)
- [Our planet](#)

Cotswold Outdoors Discount Card

This year, Cotswold Outdoor, Runners Need and Snow+Rock have requested that OHWC Club members provide some sort of Club Membership Card to receive their discount. To that end, the club committee have decided to produce a Membership Card for club members to use if they want to take advantage of the discount offered.

Please print off this page and cut out the Card illustrated below. Please note that last month's Newsletter inadvertently displayed the wrong discount. This year's discount is 15%.


OADBY HILL WALKING CLUB

This Membership Card entitles this OHWC Club Member to 15% Discount from Cotswold Outdoors, Runners Need, and Snow+Rock.

OHWC Club Members receive a 15% discount on full-priced items (excludes electronics and selected lines) from these stores.

The 2025/2026 Discount Code is:

AF-RAMBLERS-W9C



Meetings

Unless otherwise stated in this Newsletter or via email, monthly club meetings are held on the Wednesday following the Sunday coach walk at the Wigston Conservative Club, 38 Long Street, Wigston, Leicester, LE18 2AH at 7.30pm.

All OHWC club members are welcome.

Club Media and Bank Details

Website	https://www.oadbyhillwalkingclub.com
Email	ohwcmal@gmail.com
Safeguarding Email	OHWCsafeguarding@gmail.com
Facebook	Oadby Hillwalking Club group
Instagram	Oadby Hillwalking Club
Bank Details	Barclays Bank
Account Name	OHWC
Account Number	50124990 Please quote surname and month of walk (i.e., Smith July)
Sort code	20-49-08

OHWC Committee 2025 – 2026

Chair	Martin Beckett	07748 674223
Treasurer	Martin Beckett	07748 674223
Club Secretary	Ann Branson	07726 334583
Membership Secretary	Mike Hewitt	07484 731419
Walks Coordinator	Adam Wakley	07720 328700
Social Events & Media	Elaine Akers	07930 122030
Newsletter Editor	Tim Akers	07855 969183