

IS SPRING IN YOUR AIR?

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Feedback always welcome



# WALKERS ARE WELCOME

Towns and villages with something special to offer all walkers

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



**Newsletter February 2018**

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## Annual Returns - Spring is in the air

In between the snow, wind, and rain here in Cumbria, we have had some lovely spring days when we have smiled in the warming sun at the snowdrops perking up. So good to be out enjoying the countryside.

Thank you to everyone who has sent in their Annual Returns before the end of January deadline. Just a few to come in now, **as quick as you can please**. Mentors will be contacting you with feedback in due course. We have already been looking at some examples of the amazing work from around the regions. Well done, seems so insufficient but thank you.

Looking forward to seeing some of you at the **Northern Get-Together on Saturday 24th February** when we will be discussing the future together.

### New Website

If you have logged into the new website Members' Area you can now also add your **news** and **events** in the website sections with Jackie Browne and Naomi Wrighton doing a great job entering them onto the website. We are no longer able to do this for you but the new system should be far easier.

You should of course also have completed your profile while logged into the Members' Area. The profiles are now being loaded see the [website active members section](#).

**Any problems please contact the [Webmaster](#)**. We have had a few positive comments about the website but would love to hear your feedback, what do you like or dislike?

### A Way to Walk

Absolutely **LOVE THIS** from Kindling Forest Schools.

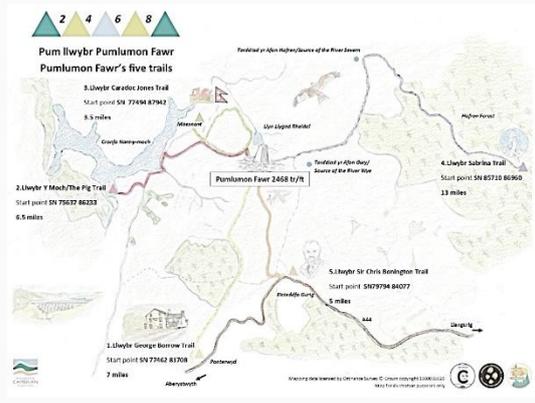
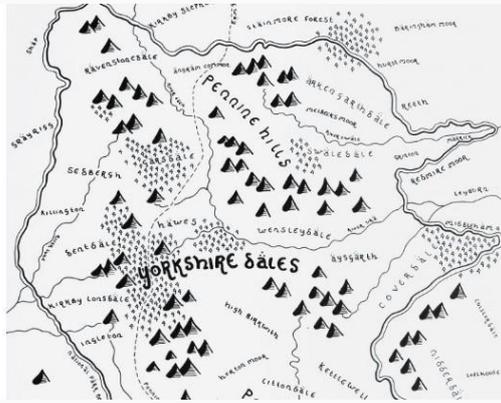
Friends were asked 'on social media to suggest creative and playful ways to walk.'

Examples to feed the imagination include:

- At night with shadows
- Collecting colours
- Walking with your bare feet through moorland
- Hunting sea monsters
- Off the ground
- Like a dinosaur
- Talking to trees

For further ideas and to see a video Three ways of Walking in the Woods and other ideas see their [website](#).

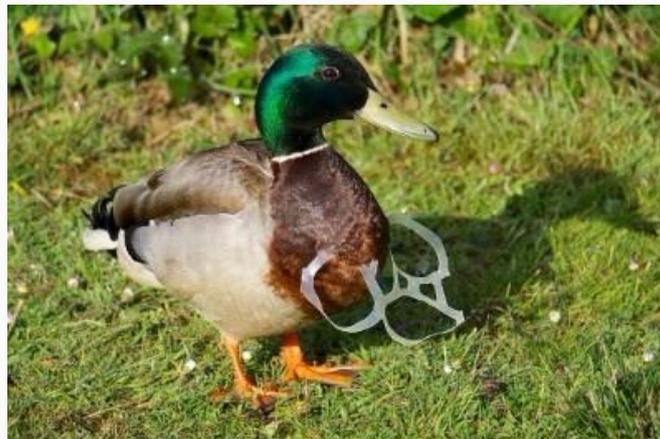
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## More Inspirational Maps

Last month we showed you the underground style map from Norfolk trails. Here's an inspiring Tolkien style map from Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Next is this beautiful colourful hand-drawn map from **Tregaron** advertising their Pumlumon Fawr's five trails in the Cambrian mountains of Wales.



### #GBSpringClean

At this time of year, we often look at our paths and lanes to see litter that has been thrown from cars and blown in over the winter months. The Great British Spring Clean, 2nd to 4th March is a perfect time to tackle this job and you can register your event [online](#) to get some additional publicity and helpers.

Dave McDougal writes from **Baildon**:

*"In total 87 bags of litter have been collected in January from various locations in Baildon. A great start to the year. There is two litter picks organised for the beginning of February.*

**Horncastle** was out in force in January litter picking on the Lincoln Road. As the snow came down they decamped to have a well-earned coffee. Their next pick will be Boston Road and the 50 Acre.

**Kirkby Stephen** has been helping with a local Village Verges initiatives and has an event on 1st March celebrating St David's Day, looking for dragons and they might find some litter along the way.

In **St Dogmaels** they are having 'Tidy-up of footpath down from the car park and along the Pinog' on 4th March.

*Photo. Commons Wikimedia litter duck*

### Members' News

Also see our website [members' news](#) section or [facebook](#) and don't forget to add your news.



### Sunset on the Severn Bridge Tolls

We couldn't resist this beautiful photo. from Helen Kenneally in **Chepstow**:

*'This year, we're keeping our fingers crossed that the tolls will be removed from the Severn Bridge, 50 years since it first opened to traffic. The walk on, Sunday 8th April, starts by crossing the Severn Bridge to England where we meet John Evans on the Aust Cliffs. John worked on the original construction and supervised the strengthening work 25 years ago. We then return over the bridge and follow the Wales Coast Path through Chepstow as it heads back to its terminus next to the Wye Bridge, which last year celebrated its 200th anniversary.'*



### National Committee Member

#### Don Davenport in the News

Long service achievement certificates being presented by Richard May (centre) to Don Davenport, from Cromer (left) and Dereck Smight (right) for their service to Sheringham Ramblers.

*Pic. Mike Robinson*

[See report](#)



Top left: **Dover** has commissioned some metal WaW plaques to meet local business demand.

Above: **Baildon, Burley, Bingley and Otley** WaW members get-together at The Wheatley at Ben Rhydding to learn about social media. Thanks to Diana Greenwood from #visitbradford for leading and the photo.

**Boroughbridge** group have been nominated for The Boroughbridge Mayors' community awards.

**Horncastle** WaW has led a campaign to take responsibility for maintaining a new footbridge which will open up new routes for walkers and Councillors have now agreed. [See press report.](#)

Below centre left: 'Thanks to the Nabarro family at Bere Mill for the fab new path across the top of their field adjacent to the B3400, this now provides safe walking alongside the stretch of road between Wells-in-the-Field and **Whitchurch** where there is no pavement. It also provides an 'all weather' alternative route to the lower public right of way.'

Bottom left: Garden dedicated to Walkers are Welcome at **Chesham** Underground station.

Top right: As plastic waste awareness reaches new heights. **Mini-Eden** shop in **Kirkby Stephen** is offering to refill water bottles.

Above: Mark Richards has just drawn Rhys and Gina of **Alston** for a new walks book being published with **Barnard Castle** and **Kirkby Stephen**.

**Watch out** for The Ramblers Best Walking Neighbourhood Awards to vote on coming soon.

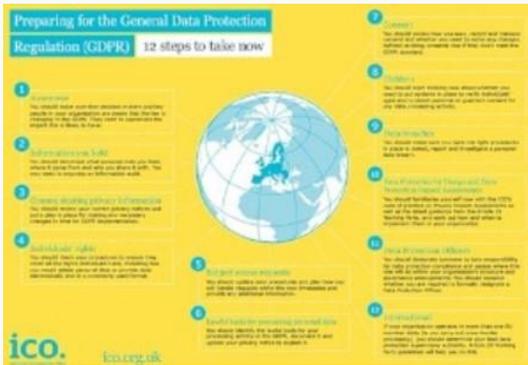
**Clare** launch in the [press](#)

Below: Some of the many WaW stickers in **Nether Stowey**.

Below centre right: One of the many footpath furniture projects in **Overton's** Annual Return 2017.

Bottom right: No more stile struggles above Manordeifi Old Church, **Cilgarron**. Pembrokeshire County Council has replaced a total of five damaged stiles with nice shiny new gates and rebuilt all the steps as well.





## Data Protection

Need some help with preparation for the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) effective 25 May 2018 see this [website](#) for '12 steps to take now.' Please don't ignore data protection.

Thank you Catalan [DCB Turisme @DCBTurisme](#)

Walkers are Welcome és un molt bon exemple de cooperació i treball en xarxa per destins que vulguin atraure un dels nínxols de turisme actiu amb major creixement a Europa: el [#senderisme decaba.com/la-consolidaci...](#) Coneix més sobre aquesta iniciativa en aquest nou article al blog!

Translation: Walkers are Welcome is a very good example of cooperation and networking for destinations wishing to attract one of the niches of active tourism with strongest growth in Europe: the [#senderisme decaba.com/la-consolidaci](#), etc. Learn more about this initiative in this new article on the blog!

**And see you next month [secretary@walkersarewelcome.org.uk](mailto:secretary@walkersarewelcome.org.uk)**

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