

**EAST KENT RAMBLING CLUB  
NEWSLETTER  
March 2023 to June 2023**

|   |  |              |
|---|--|--------------|
| <b>Chairman</b>                           | Derek Ames   | 01303 265343 |
| <b>Vice Chairman</b>                      | Freda Bean   | 01843 863381 |
| <b>Treasurer and Membership Secretary</b> | Sue Slater   | 01227 455750 |
| <b>Secretary</b>                          | Carol Barrett  | 01227 374529 |
| <b>Rambles Secretary</b>                  | Jenny Hardy  | 01843 221780 |
| <b>Committee Member</b>                   | Malcolm Attwood  | 01304 364794 |
| <b>Committee Member</b>                   | Peter Basford  | 01843 604655 |
| <b>Committee Member</b>                   | Chris Bilyard  | 01227 766793 |
| <b>Committee Member</b>                   | Tracey Reed  |              |
| <b>Club Website</b>                       | <a href="http://www.eastkentramblingclub.com">www.eastkentramblingclub.com</a> |              |
| <b>Email Address</b>                      | <a href="mailto:ekramblers@gmail.com">ekramblers@gmail.com</a>                 |              |

Snowdrops everywhere!

It has been a delight on walks over the last couple of weeks to see the carpets of snowdrops and pretty catkins. So, Spring is on its way. Lambs soon.

It is hoped that you are getting out into our wonderful Kent countryside – a great selection of starting points for the walks on this next programme. Enjoy!

## **Annual New Year Lunch**

The Annual lunch, held on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> was, once again, a great success.

35 members sat down to an excellent meal at The Canterbury Golf Club in a very convivial atmosphere.

Our sincere thanks go out to Brenda Cardwell for organizing this popular event.

It was noted that she now wishes to retire, so Carol Barrett has kindly stepped into the role for 2024.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS-Dates for your diary**

### **AGM 2023**

The Club's AGM will be held on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 2.15pm** in Blean village Hall.

The meeting will be preceded by a Bring and Share Lunch from 1pm.(reinstated by popular demand!)

This is a great chance to meet up and chat with fellow members.

The Hall is easily accessible by car and bus.

Meeting up together provides the opportunity to join the committee.

There are vacancies. So, if you would like to get involved with the running of your club please let a member of the committee know. There are only three meetings a year, every four months, in a pub – all very sociable.

At the end of the meeting this year's subscription of £8 can be paid. Please bring the correct change or a cheque made payable to East Kent Rambling Club.

Prior to the meeting the agenda for this year and the minutes of last year's AGM will be circulated via email.

If you have access to a printer and would like to have copies in your hand for the meeting, please can you print these documents out to bring with you.

### **SPRING LUNCH: Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> April**

The Summer Lunch will be held at **The Bell Inn, St. Nicholas at Wade.** (CT7 0NT, grid ref: 266 666)

A huge Thank You to Lesley Attwood for arranging the following.

There is space for 35 people only. Timings – 12.15 for 12.45.

Cost: £15 per head, payable on the day, with any gratuities extra at your discretion.

## Menu Choices:

### Main Course

Steak and Ale Pie with vegetables  
Roast Chicken with vegetables  
Pork Belly with apple mashed potatoes and cider gravy  
Sea Bass with crushed potatoes, crayfish, lemon butter sauce.  
Mediterranean Vegetable Quiche.

### Desserts

Chocolate Fudge Cake  
Treacle sponge with custard  
Apple and Sultana crumble with custard  
Lemon Meringue Pie

Coffee and Tea included.

To book your place, please contact Lesley Attwood, on 01304 364794, with your menu choices ready for dictation!

Please note that the pub does NOT open before Noon.

There is limited car parking space at the pub, but there is plenty of on street parking by the church, a short distance away.

## **CLUB HOLIDAY 2023: 14TH MAY TO 18TH MAY**

31 members have booked for the holiday, based at The Hydro Hotel, Mount Road, Eastbourne, BN20 7HZ. Malcolm is pleased to say that all room requests have been granted.

There are **still places available**.

The details are as follows -

£85 per person per night for Bed, Breakfast and Evening meal.

There is an additional charge of £10 per person per night for a room with a sea view.

Therefore, the total cost will be **£425 or £475 per person**.

**There are some single rooms, at no extra cost, which will be allocated on a first come first served basis.**

For more information and to book, please contact Malcolm on 01304 364794.

A non-refundable deposit of £25 per person is required to secure a place, which needs to reach Malcolm as soon as possible.

Cheques should be made payable to East Kent Rambling Club, and sent to Malcolm Attwood, 27 Downs Road, Walmer, CT14 7SY.

Reminders for those of you that are going to Eastbourne!

The outstanding balance of £400 or £450 is due by March 25<sup>th</sup>.

All cheques should be made payable to East Kent Rambling Club.

If you are arriving by train, please be reminded that it is a 15 to 20 minute walk to the hotel.

Everyone is asked to bring both their train and bus passes.

Walks – there will be 4 short walks, for which there are 4 leaders in place

there will also be 4 long walks, but at present there are only 2 leaders. So -

Malcolm is looking for 2 more volunteers, please.

If you have again questions regarding the holiday, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Malcolm.

## **SUMMER BUFFET LUNCH**

As many of you know, Dorothy Woodtli very kindly left the Club a sum of money to cover the cost of a function in her memory, to which all members, past and present, are invited.  
(If any member knows of past members, please advise them)

This will take place at the **Canterbury Golf Club** on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 1pm.**

There will be a 4/5 mile walk preceding this event from the Club House at 10.30am

Please let Jenny know if you wish to attend the lunch by June 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Contact - [jehardy1@btinternet.com](mailto:jehardy1@btinternet.com) or 01843 221780

News from two previous club members – written just before Christmas 2022.

### **A note from John and Rosemary Burton, now living on the Isle of Wight**

Just to let you know we finally moved from Canterbury to the Isle of Wight almost 4 weeks ago now. It was a bumpy buying and selling process but in the end it all went through OK. We moved out on 16 November and moved in here the following day. The removal men asked if it was just the 2 of us as we had an awful lot of stuff! Looking around this house I must admit they were right. I have numerous “memory boxes” and half completed projects and loads of books (travel, cooking, gardening, OS maps, walks guides – or as they are known: books of dreams!) and some things that are just junk that I should really get rid of. The Canterbury house had 3 large built in wardrobes which meant we had loads of storage for all manner of things. There are no built-in wardrobes here so most of the stuff is in heaps on the floor. We have visited IKEA a couple of times and units are on the way – due to arrive on Saturday. However, we have a large fitted kitchen so all the kitchen bits and pieces have been put away – but where, that’s the cry at the moment. Since we landed we have spent a lot time doing various jobs to make the place more like home. At the moment it is a bit like being on a holiday where you brought everything you owned with you. The house has needed a thorough clean throughout. The previous owners had 3 dogs and 4 cats – the smell of which is proving very difficult to shift. When we looked round the house in the summer it was warm and all the windows were wide open – I’m looking forward to getting them open again once it is warmer.

Many thanks to everyone for your company and friendship over the years. For some great walks in marvellous countryside. Walking introduced us the green and quiet side of East Kent – often overlooked by those travelling by car along the main roads. Also for encouragement to undertake long distance walks with the very timely advice “Do it whilst you can”. Coast to Coast, the Dales Way, the West Highland Way to name but a few. Also, thanks for the brilliant Club Holidays – it was lovely to go on some wonderful walks with friends.

So this is a goodbye from us for now but if the Club organises a holiday to the Isle of Wight then we will arrange some walks to suit. If anyone walks along the Coastal Path through Colwell Bay do pop in and see us, we are just up the road at Seagulls Rest. The sea is only 250 yds away, so once the sun shines and the weather warms up, you’ll find us “down by the sea”!

Happy Rambling  
Rosemary and John

## ROGER KING'S RIGHTS OF WAY REPORT

For more information please phone Roger on 01304 362730 or e-mail [roger.rambler89@outlook.com](mailto:roger.rambler89@outlook.com)

### KCC General News

As mentioned last time, all the posts at Brabourne Office are now filled, with some changes in personnel as a result. The budget for 23/24 appears to be "as normal", although worries about the financial pressures on KCC as a whole are never far away. Hopefully there may be some reduction this year in the backlog of issues reported, although thousands remain "awaiting allocation". But is still vital that we do record them at <https://webapps.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccesscams/standardmap.aspx>, so that the KCC PROW Service know what's going on, and can bid for resources accordingly. Two bright spots:

(a) we are assured that KCC's network of Countryside Access Wardens (CAWs), volunteers tackling smaller FP problems, but for so long neglected in terms of support and resources, will get a major boost this spring; and (b) The White Cliffs Group "Slashers" continue to find and tackle vegetation problems with minimal input needed from KCC. Their exploits are recorded on the WC website and Facebook pages. If YOU discover an overgrown path in the Folkestone, Dover or Thanet areas, why not contact them (via me, if necessary)?

### Local Development Proposals - so many of them these days...

- The proposed Airfield between Little Mongeham and Northbourne was turned down by the Dover DC Planning Committee.
- Plans for the huge Solar Farm at Aldington, affecting many rights of way, are still under discussion. Meanwhile there is another new proposal for the Postling area, although I believe only one footpath would be directly affected.
- Plans for a large hotel and "surfing lagoon" have been submitted for the Betteshanger Country Park site. Although no rights of way are involved, the overall character of the Park would certainly be changed.
- A large Deer Park is proposed for Waldershare Park. Gates would have to be installed where bridgeway ER97 and footpath ER96 – the North Downs Way – enter and leave the new park. One wonders how well deer and users of a National Trail would mix, but in fairness there seem to be few problems at Knole Park.

### England Coast Path – Ramsgate to Whitstable section open soon?

It appears that after 5 years of wrangling, the issue of fencing the Path at the North Foreland Golf Club has been resolved. We can look forward to the path being finally open by the summer – or so we are told.

### Path change news – again really busy with claims for new paths and upgradings. "Highlights" are:

#### **Upgrading of Sutton footpath EE427 to bridgeway status confirmed by an Inspector**

This path begins opposite EE451, (part of which is Hangman's Lane), itself recently upgraded, on the Ripple-Martin road. It then runs NW past Winkland Oaks to the road SW of Sutton village at GR 334 488.

#### **Claims rejected by an Inspector:**

- The claimed new footpaths *inside* the NE, SE and NW edges of Coldblow Woods, situated between Walmer station and Ripple Mill.
- And, after an appeal, the claimed new routes in Bossenden Woods, north of Dunkirk.

#### **New claims currently out for consultation:**

- *Goodnestone bridgeway EE269 - upgrading to restricted byway status.* It runs from Goodnestone Road/Cave Lane in the north (GR 256 555) south to the junction of the Adisham and Ratling roads (GR 247 542). The bridgeway (EE269A) immediately to the north of this route is also currently the subject of a similar upgrading order. *NB* An upgrade from bridgeway to restricted byway means that in addition to walkers, cyclists and horse riders, horse-drawn vehicles (but definitely not motorised vehicles), may use the route.
- *Footpath from Eastry to Hammill.* Being given priority by KCC, this mile-long route would leave Gore Lane, near Eastry Primary School, at GR306 550. Heading westwards across country it would terminate on the lane south of the old brickworks at GR 290 555.

#### **Other orders confirmed:**

- *Littlebourne CB174* – a small diversion (already in use?) around new development at Weir Lodge on the Little Stour, at GR 212 576.
- *Doddington ZR281* - a minor diversion to clarify the route of the path where it leaves the north side of The Street at GR 933 572.

**Current issues:** Live issues, with orders made but not determined, and various consultations in progress, exist at Alkham, Bishopsbourne, Blean Woods, Calcott (Sturry parish), Doddington, Dunkirk, Lower Hardres, Nonington and Shepherdswell (!). Details available, but I'll let you know when something important happens.