

Area Chairman's Final Swan Song

This time I shall definitely be bowing out, after a year of acting as caretaker. Well not quite a year. In May/June 2010 I had tests which were inconclusive. Then in June this year more tests revealed I was in early to middle stages of prostate cancer.

Fortunately these days it can be cured, and as I write there are 3 more days left of trekking on the buses to St James for radiotherapy. A side effect has been what the leaflets call fatigue. It has meant that I had to ask Dany to chair meetings recently.

It also meant that from August I found walking more than 5 or 6 miles a struggle. In particular my ambition to visit a walk with each group had to be abandoned.

What I had hoped to do was to encourage people to come forward to take up helping run groups and area. This continues to be an issue and indeed a challenge.

Sadly Driffield group have decided to close and this presents a challenge for my successor, as indeed does the recruitment of volunteers.

A highlight of being "in the chair" was that I arranged for Area Council to receive a visit from Simon Barnett, Head of Walking Programmes & Promotion, in October. He spoke, at my request, about the Get Walking Keep Walking programme, especially with reference to East Hull.

He left us with no doubt that this is important work for members as a charity, and suggested two areas we should progress. Firstly to set up and promote a programme of local 3-4 mile bridging walks: and the secondly to raise awareness of Ramblers ambition to do more to promote walking. We need to link with the local authority people and develop this area.

My ambition would have been to have a full time person to help this – but we would need to raise £50,000 from local sources (charities) to support this.

He also told us that Ramblers were bidding to take over the running of the Walking for Health programme hitherto run by Natural England. Some of us have done the course and are involved locally.

It has to be recognised that Ramblers is not a social walking club, and that participants should be prepared to put something back.

Many do by offering to lead and we manage to keep the area activities going. But the net of Ramblers needs to spread even wider and we must continue to extend or die.

There are many competitors for the time of those wanting to walk - the major ones being the likes of the National Trust, U3A and CHA.

Final word: will you contribute to the continuation of the Ramblers?

Chris Bush



"The RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION promotes rambling, protects rights of way, campaigns for access to open country and defends the beauty of the countryside."

ANNUAL REPORT 2010 - 2011



Notice of 2012 Area Annual General Meeting

All members and representatives of affiliated organisations are requested to attend the **Annual General Meeting at 2.00 pm on Saturday January 28th 2012 in The Village Hall, Welburn, North Yorkshire (SE 722 680)**

Prospective members may be introduced and are welcome (non-voting).

There will be a 5 mile walk from the Hall starting at 10:30am

AGENDA

1. Attendance (please sign the record) and Apologies for Absence.
2. Chairman's opening remarks
3. Minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting.
4. Matters arising from the minutes.
5. Annual Report for 2010/2011
6. Financial statement – Accounts for year ending September 30th 2011
7. Election of Officers and Council Members:
President Vice-Presidents Chairman Vice-Chairman
Area Secretary Area Treasurer Walks Programme Compiler
Publicity Officer Countryside Secretary Minutes Secretary
Membership Secretary Area News Editor/s Area Webmaster
Area Access Officer Area Footpath Secretaries
Area Council Members – nominations and volunteers will be welcome at the meeting but helpful if notified beforehand, with written agreement of nominees if unable to attend. Group Secretaries should provide details of up to 4 representatives appointed at their AGM
8. Appointment of Independent Examiner (Nominations Required)
9. Appointment of Area Delegates to 2012 General Council (Nominations Required)
10. Motions of which notice has been given in writing to the Area Secretary in accordance with rule 13(f) of the Constitution.
11. Any Other Business.

After the formal meeting and a short break:-

Dr Peter Halkon will speak on "Landscape Archaeology - an aerial view"

----- 00000 5 00000 -----

EAST YORKSHIRE AND DERWENT AREA RAMBLERS
2010-2011 Area Annual Report
AREA SECRETARY'S FOREWORD

I hope you will find reading this year's joint Area News and Area Annual Report both interesting and stimulating, As I have said before the Report is the chance for all our Officers and Groups to say what they have been doing locally to promote the Ramblers' various charitable aims. It is their chance to shine, and to say what went well and also to report on what they had problems with and what they possibly still need your help with.

This year we wanted to finish the year with more members than we started with. However, we have to report that this has been something we've failed to do at both National and Area level, and just two of our local Groups managed it. People have continued to join the organisation, whether to support and join in our campaigning and practical work or just to go on one of our many enjoyable & sociable Group led walks exploring both new and favourite places. But we've found that a greater number of people are leaving us or, at least, not renewing their subscriptions.

We'd love to know why. We know with a generally ageing membership base a number will always leave because they no longer want or feel able to join us on a walk. But what of the others? Was there something we didn't do (or no longer do) to live up to your expectations? Do let us know. Then we can try and rectify matters for the future and maybe welcome you back again. Alternatively you could join

one of our Group Committees and help organise something better.

We still require new walk leaders to come forward to assist our regular leaders and to give us the chance to provide a greater variety of walk lengths and locations; and still need for more members to get involved in the governance and activities of their Groups and at Area level.

We need people to help with footpath and other practical work. But most Groups seem to function better if there's a social side to their activities. So again, possibly you could help there. Shorter walks and family orientated walks are always in demand - do you think you could lead one? Don't worry too much about the practicalities - we can help you start and tell you what you need to do. If you're interested, just get in touch with either myself or one of the Group Secretaries listed on page 27.

Sadly we will finish this year with one less local Group in the Area, as the Driffield Group is being dissolved and its members will shortly be distributed to other Groups as far as activities and administration are concerned.

Happily, most of our other Groups are managing to keep going and replace committee members when necessary.

But that doesn't mean they couldn't do with an extra pair of hands.

Could you supply them?

As always, there is still plenty to do and plenty of good walking to be enjoyed whilst we do so. Do join us.

Malcolm Dixon, Area Secretary

Officers and Area Council Members 2010-2011

President:	Ann Holt		
Vice-Presidents:	Hugh Bayley MP, Jack Bower, <u>Roy Dresser</u> , <u>Geoff Eastwood</u>		
(Past-Presidents)	<u>David Rubinstein</u> , Sheila M Smith, Ray Wallis		
Chairman	Chris Bush	23 Albemarle Road York YO23 1EW	01904-612401
Vice-Chairman	Dany Wlodarczyk (see below)		
Area Secretary	Malcolm Dixon	8 Horseman Avenue Copmanthorpe, York YO23 3UF	01904-706850
	<u>m.s.dixon@talktalk.net</u>		
Treasurer	George Malcolm	The Bungalow, Back Lane Osgodby, Selby, YO8 5HS	01757-705471
Footpath Secretary	Mike Jackson	40 Copandale Road Beverley, HU17 7BW	01482-86164
Hull and ERYC area			
York & NYCC area	David Nunns	33 Millgates York YO26 6AT	01904-791187
Countryside Sec	Peter Ayling	25 Westland Road Kirkella, Hull HU10 7PH	01482-657240
Walks Programme	Roy Hunt	Cashel Lodge Canel Side East, Newport, Brough HU15 2RL	01430-440272
Compiler			
Access Officer	Tom Halstead	1 Derwent Drive Wheldrake, York YO19 6AL	01904-448380
Membership & Meetings Sec	Ann Laing	25 Burdale Close Driffield YO25 6SG	01377-272524
Publicity Officer		'vacancy'	
Area Webmaster & Area News	Dany Wlodarczyk	49 Pasture Terrace Beverley, HU17 8DR	01482-864124
Editor	Dany Wlodarczyk	danywlo@yahoo.co.uk	
Independent Examiner	Viv Harnan	9 Portisham Place Strensall, York YO32 5AZ	

Area Council Members: Sheila M Smith, Ray Wallis
 Additionally: each local Ramblers Group may also elect up to three of its members to the Area Council (in addition to its Group Secretary).



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process, but development starts before the paths are legally diverted or closed.

Since NYCC had not started re-surveying their path Network last year, they have re-started our own Survey, reporting to NYCC those paths considered difficult to use or having a health and safety issue.

County-wide NYCC reduced the backlog of Issues from 9500 to 9000, resolving 3300 during the year, but 2800 new Issues logged. There is a serious backlog of work on bridges and unbridged watercourses, as virtually no funds are allocated for this work.

They have also examined several applications for smaller wind turbines

on farms, the main consideration being that their ground to tip 'fall-over' distance should not fall across any part of a path.

The footpath maintenance volunteers, Stan Cooper, Nigel Emery, Ken Walker and John Wood worked monthly with David Ottaway [NYCC] to replace stiles with kissing gates, remove invasive Himalaya balsam near Towton, install drainage and help establish a new right of way near Tockwith.

Group membership is again slightly down, from 660 in 2010 to 630 on Sept 30, 2011

Vera Silberberg (Group secretary)

EY&D Area RA Group Secretaries (as at November 2011)

Beverley	Jean Cavill	1 Friary Walk	01482-888096
	jccavill@itatspectrum.co.uk	Beverley, HU17 0HE	
GYBO	Jane-Marie Osborne	4 Union Court, Union Terrace	
	janeo1975@yahoo.co.uk	York YO31 7EU	01904-639392
Howden & Goole	Marian Thomas	46 Boothgate Drive	01430-431766
	thomas.marian@btinternet.com	Howden, Goole, DN14 7EW	
Hull & Holderness	Christine Barker	7 Back Lane	0774-688-2239
	barkerp24@yahoo.com	Burtwick, HU12 9EG	
Pocklington	Sheila Banks	17 Mile End Park	01759-304466
	sheilabanks9@hotmail.com	Pocklington, York YO42 2TH	
Ryedale	Anne Whinfield	Laburnum Cottage	01653-618525
	annelwtc@gmail.com	Crambeck, Welburn, YO60 7EL	
Scarborough & District	Pam Grimwood	16 Stone Quarry Road	01723-870156
	dgrmwd@aol.com	Burniston, Scarborough YO13 0DF	
York	Vera Silberberg	41 North Parade	01904-628134
	vera@silberberg.org.uk	York YO30 7AB	

Area Membership Report (01/10/10 to 30/09/11)

The Area membership at 30th September 2011 (with 2010 in brackets) was 1786 (1886) plus 20 affiliated clubs. The national total was 113,818 (121,498). This represents an Area reduction of 5.3%, compared to the national reduction of 6.6%. As you will see from the table below, the number of new members has not dropped significantly, 214 compared to 222 the previous year, it is the number of lapses (314) which continues to be a cause for concern.

Group	New Members	Total at 30 Sept 2011	Change from Dec 2010
Beverley	37	333	+01
Driffield	05	61	-10
Hull & Holderness	19	156	-29
Ryedale	11	173	-08
Scarborough	07	98	-12
Pocklington	19	184	-22
York	75	630	-30
GYBO	33	90	+11
Howden & Goole	08	59	-01
Unattached		02	
Total	214	1786	

Ann Laing,
Area Membership Secretary

Organisations Affiliated to the Ramblers EY&D Area

Ebor Acorn Rambling Club	Patrington Walking Club
Fred's Walkers	Reckitts Rambling Club
Goole & District Rambling Club	Rowntree Moor & Fell Club
Hessle Rambling Club	Ryedale Walking Club
Hessle Town Council	Scarborough Rambling Club
Hull Group HF	The River Foss Society
Hornsea District Walking Club	The Yorkshire Wayfarers
Hull CHA Rambling Club	The Windmill Walkers
Malet Lambert PTA	Wheldrake Walking Club
North Yorkshire L. D. W. A.	Wykehyker Walking Club
	York CHA & HF Rambling Club

We appreciate their continuing support

Found a path blocked, stile with barbed wire or a field path ploughed over?
If reporting any issues or problems by e-mail, it is better to put a single item on each e-mail and if possible attach a photograph of the item.
E-mail: paths@northyorks.gov.uk , rightsofway@york.gov.uk
or via RoW team pages on www.eastriding.gov.uk

Footpath Secretaries Reports

1) East Yorkshire and Hull

Not many results for the year ending September 2011. A public inquiry was held about the width of Preston footpath 7, where the builder had built two houses over the footpath on the instructions of the East Riding Planning Committee.

The result was a compromise, the width was reduced to allow the houses to remain, but the garden wall had to be moved. As the builder had gone bankrupt, the bank agreed to pay for the alterations, when it was the council at fault.

This coming year may at last see the claimed footpath which runs through Swanland School, (please note, through the school as well as the playground) come to a conclusion.

The Planning Inspectorate wrote to all the interested parties, asking them if they wanted a public inquiry. Not one person asked for it to be public, so a start date was given for it to be done by written representation, only then for the East Riding of Yorkshire Council to change its mind and asked for it to be public, with all the expense that will entail.

Should the Ramblers allow a footpath to be diverted so eight hundred jobs can be created?

Answer: yes. Should the Ramblers allow a footpath to be diverted on a promise that some day in the future some jobs, maybe not all eight hundred, and the promise coming from a landowner who has

blocked the path, as well as the other 3 path on their land obstructed? **Then I think the answer should be: no.**

That is the question proposed by Associated British Ports, with their Wind Turbine Assembly development in Hull for Siemens. I have had many meetings with ABP since November 2010. At that time footpath 22 had been blocked for several years, with Hull City Council doing nothing about it. In April 2010 we served a 130a on the HCC, which they then served on ABP. Then ABP asked for a temporary closure for six months. So in February 2011, ABP removed the obstruction, and put another in place. We got his removed with great apologies, only for them to put notices up saying the path was temporary close. HCC then advertised the order to divert the footpath.

The Ramblers and The Byways & Bridleway Trust both objected as the order was flawed, and HCC rewrote the order and again we objected along with two others, because of mistakes in the order. To correct the order, it has to be sent to the Secretary of State, and HCC and The Ramblers have agreed a form of wording, but the agreement between Siemens & ABP ran out in July, and no planning application has been submitted. Maybe by the time you read this the answer will be known if Siemens is coming?

On the south bank of the Humber "Able UK" are building a new port, and have to provide alternative land for the displaced birds. They have chosen

York, to cater for members of this group who come from a wide area. Both these groups welcomed new members during the year, and encourage car sharing whenever possible.

Marilyn Skelton organised a series of monthly walks of about 6 miles on Tuesdays from March to October, followed by a pub lunch, which attracted an average of about 20 members drawn from the whole Area.

Afternoon walks of 5-6 miles on Saturdays and Sundays were organised by Chris Bush and Vera Silberberg, to provide an alternative for those who, for various reasons, do not want to walk all day

The York public transport group contributed 25 walks between October 2010 and the end of September 2011 to the Area walks programme, visiting locations in the North York Moors NP and Yorkshire Coast, the Wolds, West Yorkshire & the Dales as well as more local walks around York. Numbers out varied ranging from 4 up to 30+ but averaged about 10. The main effort was walking the 100+ mile Yoredale Way from Kirkby Stephen back to York in eight stages.

Cutbacks in bus subsidies did not have as big an effect as feared last year, but the withdrawal of the Summer Saturday Moorsbus services, some of the Dalesbuses and some Coastliner services is regretted. Plans for next year include the Six Dales Way, and Minster Way from York to Beverley.

We again attended the annual Rowntree Park celebrations and welcomed the participation of GYBO members.

The booklet 'Open Access Walks in North Yorkshire', which contains

details of 10 walks that take advantage of access land outside the National Parks, recently published by NYCC, was devised and written by Tom Halstead with the help of other volunteers in the Area.

Despite East Riding's refusal to cooperate with Natural England in rolling out the section of the English Coast Path in the East Riding,, Tom, George Malcolm, Martin Biggs, Brian Odell and volunteers from other groups, have carried out a survey of the coast from Ravenscar to the Humber Bridge. Based on this survey, a document has been written describing in detail a proposed route for the Coast Path, which will be submitted to Natural England by Ramblers CO.

Planning and Environment issues include concern over pressure on Green Belt sites following the publication of York's Local Development Framework which predicts a population increase of 47000 by 2031. A major retail development in the Castle/Piccadilly area may impede access to the River Foss. Other concerns included developments at Derwenthorpe and Terry's, as well as proposals outlined in 'York City Beautiful'.

The Footpath sub-committee of 10 met five times this year, chaired by Peter Lidgett. These members and a further 10 have also been involved with Path Surveys in 120 Parishes, coordinated by Patsy Pendegrass.

Progress on the Definitive Map for the former City of York County Borough area is slow due to a lack of funding. The sub-committee is often concerned where paths are being diverted or closed through the planning

the Cleveland Group in the North Yorkshire and South Durham Area about re-drawing the boundaries between our three groups to more realistically reflect the areas of the National Park where each group walks regularly and does most of its footpath work.

Sadly, Cleveland are only interested in holding onto their "empire" rather than working with the interests of The Ramblers' aims in mind. After our appeal to Central Office to help sort out the problem fell on deaf ears, we have, for the moment, abandoned the subject before the frustration drives us all round the bend.

At last year's AGM, Harry Whitehouse joined the committee, having been elected as our new treasurer. During the year, Harry has set up our group website. Involvement with this has led to him being elected at this year's AGM as publicity officer with a brief to develop links to the local media to try and raise our profile and get more people walking with the group.

York Group

Two successful coach rambles were held this year: in June an extra coach was required, partly to accommodate those who wished to complete the Yoredale Way.

The summer evening walks programme attracted a reasonable number of walkers, although it is becoming increasingly difficult to find leaders.

New members enjoyed a meeting at the Bay Horse on Marygate, which included a talk about the Tour du

This left a vacancy for treasurer. There were no volunteers to stand at the AGM, but since then, David Grimwood has volunteered to do the job, so is welcomed to the committee.

Other committee vacancies which were not filled at the AGM were countryside officer and a group representative(s) to attend Area Council meetings. The countryside officer's job would be to deal with consultations on planning applications. 2011 has seen many requests by objectors to applications for wind turbines for our support, so we could do with an extra committee member to deal with this task. As was pointed out at the AGM, the job of AC representative could easily be shared by two or more members, making it less onerous and increasing the strength of the committee.

If any Scarborough members reading this report would like to consider offering their help, please contact me.

Phil Trafford, Chair

Mont Blanc and video of a trek to the Markha Valley in the Indian Himalayas by Roger Mockridge.

The Wednesday Rambles and Ambles, which are enjoyed by the whole Area, were again arranged by two York group members, Steve Hoather and Jackie Glew. Numbers usually varied between 15 – 40, although one group of 50 was split into 2. On the third Wednesday of each month a choice of two Rambles has again been offered, one to the east and one to the west of

Cherry Cob Sands in the parish of Paull. They intend to build a new flood bank inland, make a breach in the old flood bank and turn 91 ha of farm land into mud flats. The problem is they want to divert the existing footpath which runs on the top of the old bank, to the bottom of the new bank on the land ward side, so that Ramblers will not disturb the birds. Is there any wonder we need volunteers to stop these proposals. At least we have East Riding of Yorkshire Council objecting as well.

Mike Jackson, Footpath Sec, East Riding of Yorkshire & Hull.

2) York & North Yorkshire

I would like to thank Chris Bush for his footpath work over recent years in various capacities. Almost all the work in nearly 200 Parishes is delegated to Ryedale, Scarborough and York Ramblers, as there is no sub-committee for York & North Yorkshire footpath work at present.

Chris had 33 active files at the end of the year, which I have passed on to the relevant Groups. These files cover proposed and actual modifications to the PROW Networks, deposits of maps by landowners showing which paths they believe to be PROW (hence calling into question any other paths that we believe may be PROW), changes to the road network affecting public rights and Planning matters that may affect Public Rights Of Way. We have seen several applications for smallish wind turbines on farms and each one is looked at, the main consideration being their ground to tip 'fall-over' distance should not fall across any part of a path – horse riders seek a greater distance in view of noise and flicker from the turbine blades.

The only new item I have had since taking over from Chris is a proposal by East Riding Council to erect crash bar-

riers over Loftsome Bridge, Hemingbrough, leaving inadequate footways for dog walkers and other pedestrians, where it appears NYCC and Ramblers are getting short shrift from ERYC.

Footpath Issues raised by path users via RA Central Office are re-directed to Ramblers' Area PROW Officers for any action to be taken. I pass these on to the local Ramblers' Groups to check out and take appropriate action. We note that Ramblers' web site now suggests that Issues should be raised directly with Local Authorities before contacting Ramblers, which should reduce Central Office and Local Group workloads, also showing the Authorities that the general Public (not just the Ramblers) are interested in the quality of the PROW network.

We have had 2 or 3 complaints from Ramblers walking with dogs in fields with usually docile cattle. In these instances the issue is usually dogs not being under close control, or on a short lead, attracting the attention of the cattle. Ramblers guidance is to let the dog off any lead and seek the quickest route to safety. When a dog is on a long lead there is often insufficient time to shorten the lead and release the dog, creating unneces-

sary extra danger to both the dog walker and their dog.

City of York Council are making some progress in adding paths to their Definitive Map for the former York County Borough part of their area, albeit slowly due to limited funding for this vital work. Being a small Authority, they survey a random 25% of their PROW Network each year. We are concerned where paths are being diverted or closed through the Planning process, as in several instances they are being built on before any legal orders have been confirmed.

NYCC indicated that they would start to re-survey their PROW Network outside the National Parks, but this has not come about. We suggest all Ramblers should report all those North Yorkshire paths they come across that are difficult to use or have a health and safety issue via e-mail to paths@northyorks.gov.uk, attaching photos if possible.

County-wide NYCC reduced the backlog of Issues from 9500 to 9000, resolving 3300, but 2800 new ones logged. The backlog of work on bridges and unbridged watercourses is unlikely to be reduced, as virtually no funds are allocated for this work. No action is being taken on dangerous stiles, as NYCC believe it is the occupiers responsibility – we suggested NYCC giving Notice to remove a dangerous stile, to allow free passage of the Public, may encourage action by the owner.

The Ranger Team covering most of our Area still seem to be doing

a good job with the limited funds at their disposal. Nigel Emery and other members have been providing David Ottaway with a monthly working party over the year.

At present we meet the Ranger Teams twice a year at their PROW Local Liaison Group meetings, to which all Ramblers Groups are invited.

During the year Peter Leese resigned as Ryedale Ramblers Path Officer, but the Group continued to look into path matters, as did Les Atkinson with Scarborough Ramblers and myself with York Ramblers. We are still seeking volunteers to look into path matters in Selby District (between the Rivers Ouse and Derwent, which is currently relying on members of York Ramblers.

As an extra exercise, Chris Bush, Tom Halstead and several other members have been looking into the status of ORPAs, shown by red or green dots on OS maps, as we may lose use of some of these if their status is not determined by 2026. It is slow work and the next research stage will be labour intensive, so Tom would appreciate any offers of help with this.

I would like to thank all these people and other Members who have contributed to our work over the year. Several of the workers would like more assistance and perhaps younger members to take over and carry the baton, to enable our task to be continued.

David Nunns, Acting York and North Yorkshire Footpath Secretary

Any forward planning for current committee members to stand down in the future is proving impossible. It seems that whilst members support a good walking and social programme, they are reluctant to become involved in making it all happen. Many of our regular walkers who are Ryedale members have already served on the committee, and rightly feel they have done their duty.

Many of our other regular walkers are not members of the Ryedale group, and therefore have no obligation to support us in this way. Whilst our Area programme is indeed a splendid achievement, and makes walking with any group easy and accessible, it perhaps has a serious negative impact at group committee level.

Wendy Borman
Ryedale Group Secretary

Scarborough Group

Our core activities have all carried on satisfactorily. Ramblers organiser Ray Johnson again had sufficient leaders volunteer to draw up a programme of Sunday walks covering about 40 weeks of the year. Most of the blank Sundays were filled in by volunteers offering to lead a walk a week or two before and publishing it via our egroup and website. Ray also organised a summer evening programme of shorter walks.

As usual, our footpath officer, Les Atkinson, was fully occupied for the whole year, reporting and following up problems, dealing with diversion applications and attending meetings with the National Park and the County Council Officers. Although being occasionally frustrated at the slow progress, Les has had a number of successes this year, notably the creation of a bridleway at Folkton on the basis of historical evidence.

Our group has continued to thrive socially. Lisa Crozier has organised a meal out once a month and Dave & Pam Grimwood organised a long weekend in Wooler, which was attended by nine members, who all enjoyed themselves.

The group joined in the national "get walking day" and "a walk in the woodlands" initiatives, the former being organised by new member Trishia Mumford and the latter by Judy Trafford.

During the winter, a small sub-committee of Bob Clutson, Les Atkinson, Phil Trafford and Harry Whitehouse set about checking the status of ORPAs in our group area. Correlating the ORPAs on the OS map with the "list of streets" proved to be far more time consuming and difficult than envisaged. We intend to return to the task during the coming winter.

Les Atkinson, Phil Trafford and Bob Clutson walked the full length of our group area's coastline from Ravenscar to Hunmanby Gap and passed our report on to Tom Halstead, who drew up a submission for the whole area suggesting a route for the proposed English Coastal Path.

Our thanks and congratulations are due to Tom for producing such an impressive document.

At the start of 2011, we got together with Ryedale to continue our endeavours to open discussions with

Ryedale Group

We have had a busy and successful walks programme, attracting large numbers of walkers, both local members and holidaymakers. As with other groups, the severe winter weather meant many of our walks had to be cancelled, because driving (not walking) conditions were so dangerous.

Our efforts to recruit more leaders have met with some success, but this has been offset by the inevitable loss of others, so we have done little more than maintain the status quo. The fact that our walks are so popular and regularly draw large numbers continues to be a problem. On occasions, another leader has offered to lead a different walk from the same point, enabling the group to be split. We know many walkers dislike such large groups. We also know this makes new leaders reluctant to come forward; some current leaders are also unhappy. We cannot do anything to resolve this.

Our social programme is small, but popular and well supported. Before Christmas, we organised a short walk followed by a tea. In January, we enjoyed our New Year's lunch at the Forest and Vale Hotel, Pickering, preceded by a short walk - only a few were unable to come because of the weather.

Our annual summer coach ramble was to Appletreewick and Bolton Abbey, with three linear walks of different lengths, followed by a meal on the way back, and attracted members of the public, as well as members from Ryedale and other groups.

It was so successful that a larger coach was booked.

The navigation courses continue to be very popular and successful, and the eighth one has just been completed by four people. There has been interest from non-members, which is entirely in keeping with the public benefit aim of the Ramblers, and they have been welcomed. So far it has resulted on one new member to our group, who is now leading. We hope other non-members who complete the course may also decide to join.

Our long standing boundary problem, along with the Scarborough group, with the North Yorkshire and South Durham area, remains. In view of past history, this is unsurprising. We were extremely disappointed that Central Office decided not to intervene or mediate in any way at all. Their total lack of support, is not how we feel volunteers should be treated. We are pleased that Area is now becoming involved. We are also hopeful that in view of certain changes of personnel at Central Office, there may be a change of attitude from them.

Our campaign to recruit new committee members has been extremely disappointing, resulting in only one new member. We are hopeful that another two new members will be standing for the committee at our AGM, although nothing is certain. We have been without a footpath secretary for a year, but hope to fill this vacancy at our AGM.

Area Access Officer's Report

Coastal Access

A small group of volunteers have carried out a detailed survey of the Yorkshire coastline in our Area - from Ravenscar to the Humber Bridge (116 miles) - and have identified a viable line for the English coastal route, proposed under the marine and Coastal Access Act (2009). Based on the reports of these surveys, a document is being prepared for presentation to officers of Natural England (by Ramblers). Copies may also be given to East Riding Council, Hull City Council and North Yorkshire County Council. Those members involved were: Les Atkinson, Robert Clutson, *Phil Trafford*, *Tony Corrigan*, Marilyn Skelton, John Jefferson, Martin Biggs, Brian Odell, George Malcolm, Colin Mullender, Ivor Jones, Peter Ayling, *Pauline Hakeney*

Ray Wallis and *Tom Halstead*, (those in italics helped to write the document).

Open Access

The booklet "Open access walks: North Yorkshire", devised and written by volunteers from this Area, was published by North Yorkshire County Council in January and an event to mark the publication was held in Fairy Dale in August. At the launch was Lord Middleton, the landowner, who has helped by giving permission for two new paths and entry points for the months February to June, until 2013, for the walk from Burdale; Tom Franklin Ramblers CEO; Cllr Stephen Shaw NYCC; Aidan Rayner, Team Leader Public Rights of Way NYCC; and several Ramblers volunteers, including Tom Halstead, who wrote the guidebook and did much of the work to assemble the walks.

Tom Halstead, Area Access Officer

Led Walks Programme

The Area Led Walks programme continues apace to offer the most comprehensive selection of walks of any independent group in our area. As well as the ever popular Wednesday and Weekend walks of around ten miles, we offer an increasingly diverse selection of walks from shorter walks to longer walk, public transport walks to pub lunch walks and other themed walks.

Last year we experimented for the first time with a six monthly printing of the main programme. This was done primarily to facilitate the inclusion of the various summer walks programmes. So far it seems to have been a success,

so we will continue with it for the time being at least.

Particular thanks to Vera Silberberg and Malcolm Dixon for their work on public transport walks, to Mike Jackson who continues alone to run a series of Monday walks around the calendar, to Marilyn Skelton for taking over and making an excellent success of the pub lunch walks and to all the group walks secretaries for their work in compiling their walk programmes and contributing them to the Area programme.

Roy Hunt,

Area Programme Compiler

Area Countryside Officer's Report

1. General: in the East Riding, some planning applications, especially those for wind turbines, are sent directly to the Area by email. After consultation with the relevant Group and Area Council, a response is made to those considered to have a negative affect. All papers are viewable on the ERYC website. In York area and in North Yorkshire, members of the relevant Group deal with applications (see point 5 below). Consideration of how the Area and Groups deal with applications, especially those for large wind farms, is needed.

2. Planning Applications for Renewable Energy

(i) Planning Appeals for wind farms after initial rejection: appeal in Nov 2010 for wind farm at Hilston, Holderness, dismissed (Area opposed, but did not give evidence; residents mounted a robust campaign). Appeal in May - July 2011 for wind farm at Spaldington Airfield, near Howden, allowed; that for Common site rejected (residents raised £70,000 for a barrister and witnesses; Area gave evidence opposing the appeal).

(ii) New applications: Area objected in June 2011 to application for ten, large turbines at West Heselton (Ryedale DC), and in Sept to nine, 110m high turbines at Burton Agnes (ERYC).

(iii) Smaller turbines: Area responded to 8 applications from ERYC for single (two in one case) turbines 35 - 80m in height, objected to one closer than the "falling distance" to a RoW.

Eight other applications not notified, ERYC rejected five – too close to the Heritage Coast, affect on the landscape, or negative impact on tourism. Appeals are possible.

3. School Science Fairs: workshops on walking and the environment given with Tom Halstead to 70 pupils at Brayton College, Selby, in June.

4. Meetings attended and consultations: ER & Hull Local Access Forum; ER & N York's LEADER rural development funding body; Country Mile verges project (for LEADER); Trans Pennine Trail AGM, Sept; ERYC Biodiversity Panel.

5. Group Environment and Countryside Matters: thanks to Monica Nelson (York Group Environment Officer), who deals with planning applications that affect the environment in the York area. Welcome to Bob Dealey as the new Beverley Group Officer. With increasing pressure on the countryside, and possible relaxation of planning laws, new officers in other Groups would be most welcome: job descriptions and Ramblers' countryside policy are given in "RA Walking Environment Officers Handbook 2011" on the RA volunteers website.

In Memoriam: Dennis Parker, 1920 – 2011, former Area and Beverley Group Countryside Officer. A true stalwart.

Peter Ayling,
Countryside Secretary

this year which generated some local interest in walking.

The group found that the 6 monthly Area Programme was a great development as more walk leaders were pre-

pared to commit to leading a walk 6 months in advance, whilst getting anyone to commit to leading a walk 12 months in advance was really difficult.

Marian Thomas, H&G Secretary

Hull & Holderness Group

A Year in the life of Hull & Holderness Group - Our AGM in October was a very positive affair. Mike Jackson continued his popular Monday afternoon 6 milers.

Steve Mullarkey, Walks secretary reported good success with a full programme of evening walks for Hull & Holderness, with help from other local groups in leading some of the walks, thank you all. There were also some Saturday walks and we are hoping to recruit more walk leaders for the Holderness area.

Mike is continuing to negotiate in the Victoria Dock situation and is keeping tabs on other situations in the area.

The Committee has a solid structure with the addition of Laurence Walker, Treasurer, Les Taylor, Membership Secretary Steve Mullarkey, Walks Secretary.

We have the beginnings of a social group and hope to introduce some social activities in the coming year.

Christine Barker,
Hull & Holderness Secretary

Pocklington Group

This year Pocklington group has arranged almost 150 led walks. The walks have ranged from 5-25 miles at weekends, mid week and on summer evenings. This programme has been made possible thanks to the input of Tony Corrigan, Brian Billings and Jack Hutchinson, and also thanks to all the walks leaders.

Now that we have a Footpaths Officer work has been carried out surveying the public rights of way in our area. Many parishes have been completed with the relevant details sent to East Riding Council. Members of our group have also been involved in the National Coastal Path Project.

Our group has supported the Pocklington 'Walkers Are Welcome' campaign, on the committee, by leading

walks for the official launch in March 2011 and in designing further walks.

Membership has fallen slightly this year. We are planning a publicity campaign in the spring to encourage more members. Martin Hill is hoping to organise some family friendly walks next year, this may result in a boost to our membership.

Our social programme has continued to be very busy thanks to Graham West. We have had weekends away, meals out, a quiz, a barn dance, entertainment evening, trip to the proms, etc. etc.

We need the continued support of all our members, without you the group would not exist. Please volunteer to lead walks or to help with footpath surveys.

Sheila Banks, Secretary

GYBO - the EY&D Area Young Peoples' Group

The Group has gone from strength to strength in the year with 90 paid up members and we'd love to see that number hit the 100 mark this coming year.

We've had a very strong walks programme again with walks most weekends and lots of variety offered too.

The group tackled the Yorkshire Three Peaks in the summer and also long distance walks at Byland Abbey and Hull. This was mixed in with a lovely programme of summer evening walks, which gave us all the opportunity to unwind after a day at work!

We offered a Navigation walk for the first time, held in the Peak District, which was favourably received and gave members the opportunity to try out various navigation techniques in the safety of a group.

Our traditional long distance walk this year was the Nidderdale Way – a great success and very popular. It provided

for some wonderful walking in glorious summer weather.

Our weekends away this year were to Pitlochry for Easter, Hadrian's Wall in the summer and then recently, Kettlewell. All lots of fun mixed in with some fantastic walking whatever the weather!

We also did our bit to support the Rambler festivals - winter, get walking and woodlands – with a choice of walks on offer for each event.

We continue to hold our monthly pub social meetings and other social events throughout the year, and find lots of new members join us this way, and our website goes from strength to strength and is proving a fantastic asset to the group.

We have a full committee again this year. Thanks to those who have volunteered over the past year and welcome to our new members too.

Kelly Temple, Chair

Typical numbers on walks were between 10 to 15 people and often with someone new to the Ramblers. We walked in a number of areas new to the group including Gowdall, North Dalton, Hornsea, Nether Poppleton & Harewood Park.

We have had quite good publicity of our walks in the local press, also the group had a stall at the Howden Show

Howden & Goole Group

HOWDEN & GOOLE GROUP

Despite only having a committee of 3 members, the group has had a successful year, during which we organised 20 day walks varying in length from 7 to 14 miles, these were enjoyed by all who participated.

We also lead 7 summer evening walks & shared some joint walks with both the Hull & Holderness and York

Beverley Group Footpath Volunteers

Our 6th year of activity has maintained our year round schedule but the severe Winter weather made an impact. We did however manage to carry out our December assignment at Huggate and it was particularly pleasing to receive a very nice letter from Dr Zarek, secretary to the Huggate parish council, thanking us for our efforts. We installed kissing gates at Middleton on the Wolds, Bainton, North Cliffe, Sancton, Blacktoft as well as at Huggate, and built two bridges at Catwick. We did path clearing work at various places and set up finger posts at Middleton and Blacktoft. One day in March was spent dealing with reported problems in and around the Beverley area, including signposting in North Cave and Houghton Woods.

We were pleased to spend an afternoon at Beverley Parks with James Taylor, our dedicated Countryside Officer, in helping him with some preparatory tree planting work. We have ended our year by tackling the renovation of Minster Way signs and we have reached North Dalton heading west from Beverley.

We have had our regular team again this year and although for various reasons not everyone has been able to make all the dates we have met all our commitments.

Peter Ayling, Ray Fielden, Geoff Hodges, Kevin Keough, Ivor Jones, Andy Norman and Paul Picard

York Ramblers Working Party

The York Footpath Maintenance Working Parties, comprising Stan Cooper, Nigel Emery, Ken Walker and John Wood, worked under the expert direction of David Ottaway [NYCC].

2011 has been a year of varied and satisfying tasks:

April and May saw the demolition of seven stiles along the bank of the River Ure near Lower Dunsforth, and their replacement by kissing gates.

In June we were augmented by three other volunteers to tackle a well-established colony of Himalayan balsam at Patefield Wood near Towton.

This invasive annual weed can be easily uprooted, which is an effective means of control if done before the seedbox explodes.

Scalby, near Scarborough, was our venue in July, where we anchored a large pipe into a stream where it crosses a path.

In August we returned to a path through woodland at Tockwith which had been cleared in 2010. Spreading a four-inch thick layer of wood chippings should help provide an all-weather surface on a new right of way.

September saw us in Womersley in the deep south of North Yorkshire, renewing decking on a footbridge. The season closed in October when we fenced off a path adjacent to a deep drainage channel at Church Fenton.

Nigel Emery

Area Webmaster's Report

The Website home page has been given a fresh look this year with the addition of photographs. New links to websites which describe routes to walk independently have also been added to the Walks page.

In response to last year's appeal, several members have offered to help make further improvements. One idea is the incorporation of an events calendar which groups would be able to access and update independently. It is hoped to start on this early in 2012.

Dany Wlodarczyk Area Webmaster www.eastyorkshireramblers.org.uk

Area News Editors' Report

The January 2011 edition was produced as 8 colour pages in A5 format wrapped around the Annual Report for to form one booklet. This was partly to save costs, but also with the idea that material and photos in the Area News pages could augment the content of the Annual Report.

The A5 format was used again in April and September (12 pages each) and seems to be popular, at least with the stuffing evening volunteers as it cuts out the need for folding. It also provides more flexibility as to the number of pages.

Colour reproduction in the April issue was disappointing (snowdrops looked pink and bluebells purple!) but the problem has been rectified as our printer now has a new machine.

My sincere thanks to all those who have contributed articles, news items and photos or helped with proof-reading. I find to my surprise that I have now edited Area News for over five years.

If anyone is interested in taking on the job or helping out in any way, I would be delighted to hear from you.

Dany Wlodarczyk AN Editor

Amendment or Cancellation of Walks in the Area Walks Programme

The disruption caused to our walks programme by last winter's severe weather focused attention on the way the website could be utilised to publicise any necessary amendments to the walks programme.

Following discussions at June 2010 Area Council, proposals for procedures to be followed if walk details need to be altered were publicised in the September 2010 edition of Area News and have now been adopted as Area policy.

If you need to amend any walk details, please contact one of the following who are able to access the Ramblers Group WalksFinder website.

Roy Hunt	roy_hunt@btopenworld.com	01430 440272
Ray Fielden,	rayfielden@rayfielden.karoo.co.uk	01482 882499
Malcolm Dixon	m.s.dixon@talktalk.net	01904 706850

As well as making amendments to the various websites, the information will be e-mailed around the Area and other Group Secretaries to help cascade the information down to the membership and other walkers.

It might also help if either the walk leader or Group Secretary contacted their local radio station to ask them to make an announcement

about the walk's cancellation.

Driffield Group

The Group has found it difficult to arranging committee meetings and walks for 2011/2012.

The monthly walks programme were varied but poorly attended in the main.

We had a stall at the Railway Station for Britain in Bloom in April. John Jefferson and Frank Dean gave out some leaflets about our three summer shorter walks.

On 'Get Walking Day,' Saturday May 14th, we had nine walkers on an afternoon walk at Sledmere, including four non members.

We arranged two extra evening walks:

1) The June one was from Driffield Cattle Market. There were five on this 5 miles walk to Little Driffield and Cross Trods returning via Water Forlorns.

2) The July one was from Riverhead, Driffield. It started and finished at Ice cream parlour/Cafe. As the walks leader had another appointment, Frank Dean stepped in at short notice and led this 3.5 mile walk to Whinhill Lock and back with free refreshments afterwards.

There were only three members at the meeting on Monday 6th June.

The meeting was inquorate and next year's programme of walks was deferred. Unless some of our members volunteer to run the Driffield Group it will cease to function next year.

Countryside Matters:

1) Carnaby, East Riding of Yorkshire Waste Recycling Plant. We received a proposal for one wind turbine by the Carnaby Industrial Estate. The Group did not object to this as it is away from the village and not too obtrusive. Subsequently permission was granted for two turbines.

2) The second application was for nine wind turbines at Thornholme Field. Yvonne Nadin inspected the public exhibition at Harpham Village Hall. We also met some local amenity Groups, including The Clerk to Burton Agnes Parish Council. After considering all aspects there was a majority vote against this project at the March meeting of the Driffield Group. A mast has since been erected to assess the wind strength throughout the year before the application is dealt with by the East Riding of Yorkshire.

John Jefferson, Secretary

Announcement Despite a number of measures, the Driffield Group has found itself unable to increase its membership, or to find sufficient people willing to lead walks, or to do essential footpath work or to take over from the longstanding Secretary and Chairman who both wish to stand down.

Accordingly at the Group's AGM held in late November members attending voted to dissolve the Group in its present form and requested Area to re-distribute the local Parishes that it looks after along with those members attached to the Group to other local Ramblers Groups.

This decision was ratified at the Area Council held on December 5th and the necessary processes set in motion with a view to completion by the Area Council to be held on February 27th 2012.

The Ramblers Central Office has been informed & all Driffield members will be written to outlining their options.

The EY&D Area Council would like to 'Thank': John Jefferson, Frank Dean, Yvonne Nadin, David Hamilton, Don Laing and many others for all their efforts over some or all of the last 30+ years in helping to keep the Driffield Ramblers Group going and active.

East Yorkshire and Derwent Ramblers Area Group Reports

Beverley Group

Our Xmas lunch was well attended and enjoyed at the Triton in Brantingham despite the bad weather conditions which made travelling very difficult. Also 20 people enjoyed a meal at Beverley College on 31st March cooked for us by the students.

Our summer evening walks programme which started on 4th May were well attended and continued throughout the summer until the end of August.

We had a coach ramble took place on 8th May to Bolton Abbey and included a 6 & 9 mile walk, everyone enjoyed the day.

Earlier this year we were sorry to hear of the death of one of our most loyal members Dennis Parker. Dennis had led hundreds of walks and was an honorary life member of the Ramblers' Association. Dennis's urge to get involved was made more poignant after his death as the raffle prizes donated to the Area Council meeting in January had been collected by him earlier in the week. He will be greatly missed by all his fellow members. The group is hoping to have a commemorative walk in the near future.

We have been pleased to welcome on the committee three new members Pauline Hakeney, Bob Dealey and Valerie Aspill this year and thank them for their commitment. Val is to take over as Treasurer, Bob is our new Countryside Secretary and Pauline has become our Footpath Liaison Officer.

The group attended the Driffield Show in July and supported the team at the Ramblers stall.

Carl Black of the Beverley Renaissance Partnership who is co-ordinating the application for Beverley to obtain "Walkers are Welcome" status gave us an interesting talk at one of our committee meetings.

In September the group booked a market stall in Beverley for the morning which proved a success and had a steady flow of enquiries, it is hoped to repeat this next year.

The Skidby walks booklets have been a success and only a few are left with many being sold by the Skidby Museum and Tourist Offices.

We continued with our quiz and jazz nights during the winter and are looking into a programme for this winter and look forward to another successful year for the Group.

Jean Cavill, Secretary



*JOIN US
FOR A WALK*

Treasurer's Report

Year ending 30 September 2011

An Area budget of £11,000 was agreed with Central Office (CO). This comprised £9,000 allocated by CO, £1,600 from the Area Account and the remaining £400 from anticipated sales and donations.

The Area contribution provided for the anticipated cost of both a second issue of the Walks Programme covering the period March to September, and the expense associated with the Coastal Access survey.

At the end of the financial year, overall spend was £7,418.80. Area News cost at £3497 was the highest single expenditure but that also included the print cost for the Annual Report.

Additional expenditure this year was the Coastal Access survey with costs of £571 which were in line with expectations.

Allocations to Groups were less than anticipated as they drew down £1,018 overall when their full year entitlement amounted to £1,975.

Total income amounted to £10,107.72 including the £9,000 allocation from CO. Total sales came to £496 with Minster Way sales contributing £440.

The Area benefited from a CO initiative whereby Groups received the entire first year membership for each new member recruited by Direct Debit during March. This produced an additional £240.

The Area also received £231.41 from the Ramblers' Association Services Ltd (RAS Ltd). This represented the repurchasing of the Area share holding in that company. RAS Ltd decided to change their constitution and a consequence was that individual Ramblers' Areas and Groups were not able to hold shares in the new company.

Finally the late Dennis Parker very kindly provided some prizes to raffle at the AGM and this generous gesture raised £61.

The income and expenditure figures together produced a surplus of £2,688.92. At year end the Area had a closing balance in the Area Account of £8,807.16 having started the year at £6,118.24.

There is no cash in hand, loans or investments.

The Area would also like to thank Vivienne Harnan for her independent examination of the Area accounts.

George Malcolm
Area Treasurer

Ramblers Association - East Yorkshire and Derwent Area
Accounts for period to 30 September 2011

	£	£	£	£
Receipts		2011		2010
Funding from CO		9,000		5484
CO recruitment initiative		240		
Donations and Sundry items		71		113
Dividend (RA)		0		5
Bank Interest (Unity Bank)		8		8
Publications/Badges sales		496		66
AGM Raffle		61		
Repurchase of Ramblers Association Services Ltd shares		231		
		10,107		5676
Expenditure				
Walks Programmes		750		375
Newsletters and Publicity				
Area News		3497		3363
Publicity		269		336
Membership Secretary	150	3916	119	3818
Campaigns and Casework				
Rights of Way		357		569
Access		64		65
Coastal Access		571		
Countryside	19	1011	28	662
Grants to Groups		1018		1075
Meetings (including AGM)				
Meetings		356		286
Annual Report		0		445
General Council Observers	241	597	155	886
Admin				
Subscriptions/donations	80			40
Admin Costs	46	126	210	250
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		7,418		7066
MOVEMENT IN FUNDS +[-]		2,688		[1390]

RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION
- EAST YORKSHIRE AND DERWENT AREA
STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS at 30 SEPTEMBER 2011

	2011	2010
	£	£
Fixed Assets - Written Down Value	0	0
Total Net Book Value a	0	0
(In accordance with RA Policy, only items costing over £5,000 need capitalising and shown as Fixed Assets. The Area owns display boards, a lap top computer, flag and gazebo costing less in total than this value.)		
Current Assets		
Shares in RA Services Ltd - at cost	0	225
Balance at Unity Bank	8,807	6,118
Total Current Assets a+b	8,807	6,343
Accumulated Fund		
At 1 October 2010	6,343	7733
Excess of Income over payments	2,464	[1390]
	8,807	6343

The above reflects the position on a receipts and payment basis.

Having carried out procedures in accordance with the Ramblers Area and Group independent examination guidelines, I consider the East Riding and Derwent Area accounts to have been properly prepared and give a true and fair view of the Area's finances for the year to 30 September 2011.

Signed Viv Harnan

Date *October 31st 2011*