

OADBY HILL WALKING CLUB NEWSLETTER



October 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>, & 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.

Photography Consent

Please, note that walk leaders & club members will take pictures during our hikes, which are published in our facebook private page, whatsapp private community & club's website. **If you DON'T want your photo to be taken, please remember to let your walk leader know** before the walk starts. Also, be mindful to turn your head or step away when group photos are taken.

2026/2027 Monthly Walk Destinations

Adam Wakley has published the monthly OHWC walk destinations from October 2026 to April 2027. See below:

- 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 New WhatsApp Community

By now all of you who were on the original club's WhatsApp group chat may have realised that you have been tele-transported (Star Trek style!) to the **Oadby Hillwalking Club Community**. Any group chat related to OHWC is under this community now. **Join us, if you haven't yet!**

This is how it works. Our **OHWC Community** is comprised of several groups:

1. **Announcements:** Only admins can post here. Members can like the posts or reply to them, but cannot post. This is where all the important information will be kept, in a nice standalone space, so people don't have to scroll up & down to find the important bits (i.e., walks maps, routes, dates, events, etc).
2. **OHWC Chat:** This is the chat you always had. Streamlined into a chat about OHWC walking & hiking – share your pics, vids & hiking stories. **PLEASE note that any posts out of subject will be moved to the general group by the moderator.**
3. **OHWC Lakes 2027:** This chat is for the people who have joined next year's Lake District Walking Holiday, or would still like to join us.
4. **OHWC Dolomites 2027:** This chat is for the people who have joined next year's Dolomites Walking Holiday.
5. **General:** We would like to make this a space where members can talk about anything & everything we enjoy without taking over the main OHWC Chat group – talk about our own travelling, hobbies, share interesting articles or videos, petitions, etc. It would be great if more people from the community join. We have 17 members. **PLEASE aim to use this group for all non-OHWC, walking or hiking related posts.**

Once you join the community, you can choose what group chat you want to join, stay on or leave. You can request to join groups if you automatically are not added, & if you don't want to participate in the chats, then you can just stay only with the announcements.

I welcome all of your feedback & ideas to improve our WhatsApp community. **Let's make it great!**

Safeguarding

The OHWC is committed to safeguarding in line with national legislation, & national & 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 & young people who are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse & 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 & 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 & associated procedures apply to all individuals who are involved in the OHWC, including the committee & the walk leaders, to all concerns about the safety of club members whilst taking part in club activities, & 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 & will be investigated thoroughly.

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

Club Members' Stories

Market Harborough Park Run

By Kevin Millard



If you go down to Market Harborough's lovely Welland Park on a Saturday morning, watch out for Kev Millard & 400 other Parkrunners & walkers all trying to look like they are enjoying the experience while being cheered on by the 30+ volunteers who make sure everyone stays safe. A great start to the weekend. With nearly 1000 locations around the UK, there's a Parkrun near You!

[Market Harborough ParkRun](#)

[ParkRunUk](#)



Cycling from Warsaw to Leicester

By Shirley Thomas

Back in August, I cycled Warsaw to Leicester to honour my sister who died in April of Pancreatic cancer.

I did it with 3 friends & we followed the [Eurovelo2 - Capitals route](#).

Wished I'd had an electric bike at times! Averaging 55miles a day, fully loaded.

We were cycling a section of the Capitals Route which runs from Moscow to the west coast of Ireland. We decided to start in Warsaw, Poland & the route took us to Trafalgar Square via Berlin & Den Haag & the ferry to Harwich. Then it was down into London. The distance of this trip was 2211km.

Apart from the Hartz Mountains, where I admit to pushing up a couple of big hills, the route was practically flat.



The section in Poland wasn't very well signposted & we didn't see other cyclists doing the same route but that changed when we reached the Western part of Germany & saw lots of other cyclists.

We did a few hotels where there were no campsites. I was the only one to have a minor accident when I skidded on soft sand in Poland.

Germany & Holland are always brilliant to cycle with a really well developed cycle network & good pastries!

As I think I said, I was dedicating the ride to my sister, Jen, who died from pancreatic cancer earlier in the year. Her photo is on my crossbar & I think it will stay there.

Walk In Memory of Andy McQuaid

By Carol Birch

Carol is leading **November's Mid-Month Walk on the 15th November**, in memory of club member Andy McQuaid; who passed away on the 31st August, peacefully at Loros; taking in some of his favourite local walking routes. 9.3 miles with 633 ft ascent spread over 2 hills in the first half of the walk.

Meeting in **Kibworth Beauchamp**, in the School Road free carpark (LE8 0JE), for a 9:30 start. Coffee break on Smeeton Hill about 10:45 & lunch/snack break at Foxton Locks about 12:15. Toilets & cafes/pubs where you can get drinks & snacks if you haven't brought anything. Return to Kibworth between 2:30 / 3 pm.

Call Carol on 07837 381476 for messages/queries.

Some memories from Andy at the **2023 Lake District Walking Trip**:



Lake District Trip – May 2027

Derwentwater Hotel, Lake District (1st / 5th May)

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.

Don't forget to join our WhatsApp OHWC Lakes 2027 group for all the latest info about the trip!



Dolomites Hiking Trip – June 2027

Arabba (24th June / 2nd July)

By Martin Beckett

A party of 14 people have signed up for the Dolomites Walking Trip. A Dolomites Whatsapp group has been created within the OHWC Community so all travellers are able to liaise with each other. Please, if you have not been added to the group yet, let us know emailing ohwcmail@gmail.com & sending us your phone number.

For 2027's trip to the Dolomites we would like to change things so that there is less reliance on a limited number of people to organise all matters & lead the walks. We have now settled for the ski resort of Arabba. The **travel dates are Thursday 24th June to Friday July 2nd, giving us 7 days walking.**

I have spoken to **Millingtons Travel Agents** in Market Harborough who sent us a quote & this has been communicated through email to all travellers. You'll see that I've managed to reduce the previously quoted cost slightly by opting for an 11.45am departure from Stansted on Thursday - we will need to add the cost of UK transport to this & of course the ski passes. It will also need us to congregate in Leicester at 6.30am on Thursday morning. We are booking 4 double rooms and 3 twin rooms. The flights are from London Gatwick to Verona. Accommodation: [**Garni Bellavista Hotel**](#). The transport to Stansted will be a mix of car pooling & National Express Bus. Find all the trip details in my email from 23rd September.

Please, can you BACS your deposit payment as soon as possible, if you haven't done so already. At some stage you will need to download the **Ryanair App** in order to transfer your tickets. The highest mountain in the area is Marmolada at 3343 m, please ensure that your **travel insurance** will cover you hiking up to this height and also covers via ferrata if you intend to give it a try.



We will be encouraging more club members to lead routes assisted by the current leadership to ease the burden on the club's small group of regular leaders (Ideally groups of people, who are prepared to research walks in advance & then collectively lead them). This isn't difficult for club members as all are competent walkers. There are ski lifts, numerous refugios, the walks are well signposted & well worn. The local maps are good & apps like All Trails, Komoot & Maps.me are very good. These apps give you numerous ready-made downloadable routes & this will help in Italy.

Christmas Dinner – December 2026

Whetstone (Thursday 17th December – 7:00 pm)

A table has been booked for the club's 2026 Christmas Dinner, which will take place at **The Old Vicarage Pub** (Whetstone, Leicester, LE8 6JH) at **7:00 pm** (please, note time change). 27 members have signed up.

Thank you to all who signed up for the meal. Please, email ohwcmail@gmail.com with your [menu choices](#) & to let us know you have paid for your meal by BACS (please, quote Xmas + name in your reference).



WALKS

October's Monthly Walk Report: Langsett (South Yorkshire, Dark Peak)

By Club Members

Sunday, 4th October 2026 – All Walks (8 - 14 miles / 1217 - 1827 ft elevation)

“Not my usual walking, along the Trans Pennine way which was a bit uninteresting but at least the start and end was better 😊”

Adam



“Thank you for the lovely walk today Alison and Gala 😊”

Rosie

“Thank you for an amazing walk, Alison 😊 great day XX”

Zahra



“Thanks a million to Alison for a wonderful hike & for having the patience to let me shadow you! 😊 Really grateful also to everybody in the walk for all their support & encouragement”

Gala



“A perfect day for a "proper" hill walk up in the Gritstone Peaks, the views were amazing all the way round, great company as always, thanks to Glenn for leading”

Kevin

“Caption, anyone?”

Shirley

“No wonder they did the 13 miles and still had 3 hours in the pub”

Clare



Thank you to all walk leaders!

October's Mid-Month Local Walk: Watermead Country Park

Led by Gala Suarez

Sunday 18th October 2026 – Watermead Park (8 miles)

Gala will be leading October's Mid-Month Walk. Find all the details below:

Meeting Time: 11:00am (Please, arrive 15 minutes earlier – bring a snack & drink)

Meeting Place: Belgrave Rugby Football Club (Main Entrance), Belgrave Pastures, Thurcaston Road, Leicester, LE4 2QG (free street parking - toilets on the walk)

Public Transport: 25-26 FirstBus / Skylink Derby

Pub Stop: The White Horse Pub (Birstall)



Walk Route:

We will walk into Watermead Country Park, starting at Little Mead off Thurcaston Road. We will continue to walk around the 3 main lakes (Mamooth, King Lear & John Merrick's), crossing the Pyramid Tree Tunnel (also known as Sleepy Hollow!) & stopping at The White Horse Pub in Birstall, before making our way back to Thurcaston Road.

**You can download the GPX route posted on our Whatsapp Community*

Please, **text Gala** if you would like to join this walk on **078100 63353**

November's Monthly Walk: Longshaw (Derbyshire, Peak District)

Sunday 1st November 2026

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

Boot stop: Matlock Train Station

Pub: The Grouse Inn



***Please note:** The coach will leave the pub at **5.00 pm**.

Map: OS Explorer OL1: OS Map of the Peak District – Dark Peak Area

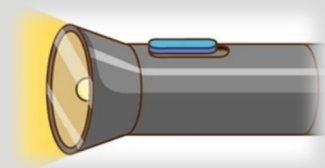


Walk Leaders:

 [Click on each leader to see their route's OS map](#)

- [Kevin Millard \(Long -12.5 miles\)](#)
- [Catherine Gwinnett \(12.3 miles\)](#)
- [Karl Pochin \(11 miles\)](#)
- [Bruce White \(9.5 miles\)](#)
- [Robert Davison \(8.3 miles\)](#)
- [Shirley Thomas \(Short - 8 miles\)](#)

The days are getting shorter.
Don't forget to bring your torch light!



Booking Trips

When booking onto monthly & mid-month walks, please **only** use the club email rather than phone, text or word of mouth. Alternatively, for the monthly walks, put your name down on the list passed on the return monthly bus.

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 & 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 list passed on the last coach trip, please contact ohwcmail@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 & 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 members who have already booked a seat at various places on the ring road.

If you wish to be picked up from other places than Oadby Car Park, please mention where at time of booking & 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 Routes

Please, a couple of weeks before the monthly walk, go onto the News section of the Club website [here](#), the Announcements section of our WhatsApp Community, or to our closed Facebook group, to see the GPX files as well as the OS maps' links to each individual route. Hopefully, this will speed up selecting your walk when signing up on the coach.

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 & place dirty boots & rucksacks in the luggage locker before getting onto the coach, thus avoiding any congestion & mud in the coach.

Please do not wear dirty boots on the coach.

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

Essential Wear

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

- Suitable waterproof walking boots that have adequate ankle support
- Waterproof coat & over-trousers
- Warm clothing
- An appropriate rucksack.
- Food & 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 & 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.

Looking for Walk Leaders!!

We are having some issues finding available walk leaders, mainly for our local Mid-Month Walks. We would like to encourage members, who may or may not have ever led before, to give it a go! You will receive training & you will not be on your own, as you will be accompanied by an experience leader during your initial walks. [All Trails](#), [Komoot](#) & [OS Maps](#) are good navigating apps for starters. You can download them on your phone & use off road maps for a small yearly subscription fee.

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 & must not be shared with others.

Club members benefit from:

- 15% discount in-store & online,
- Expertise, advice & guidance,
- Sustainability services,
- Explore More membership.

OHWC discount

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

This discount is strictly for personal use only & 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 & much more! Members can sign up through any of the following brands:

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

Expertise, advice & 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 & 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, & 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, & they want to help their customers do their bit too. The services they offer to help with this are available across all their

stores:

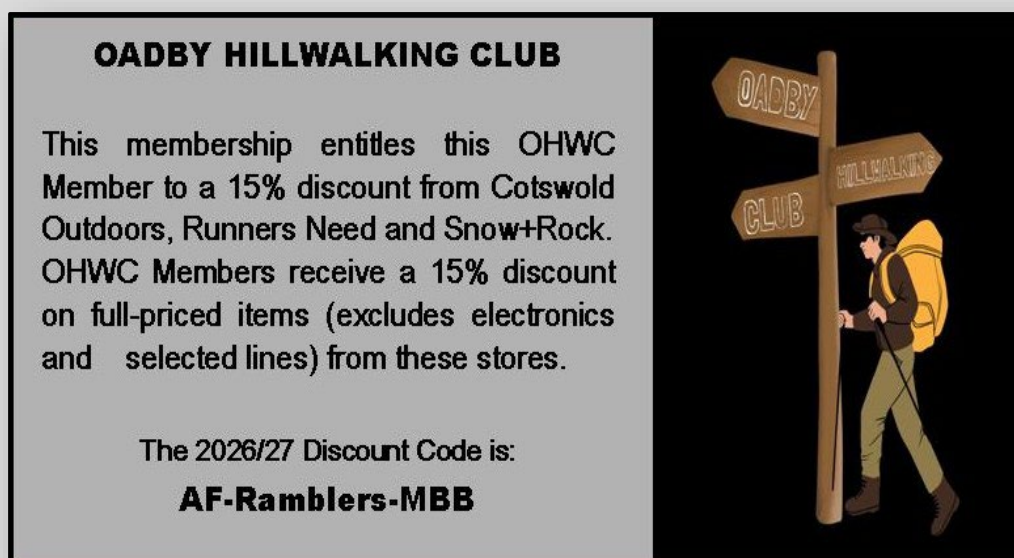
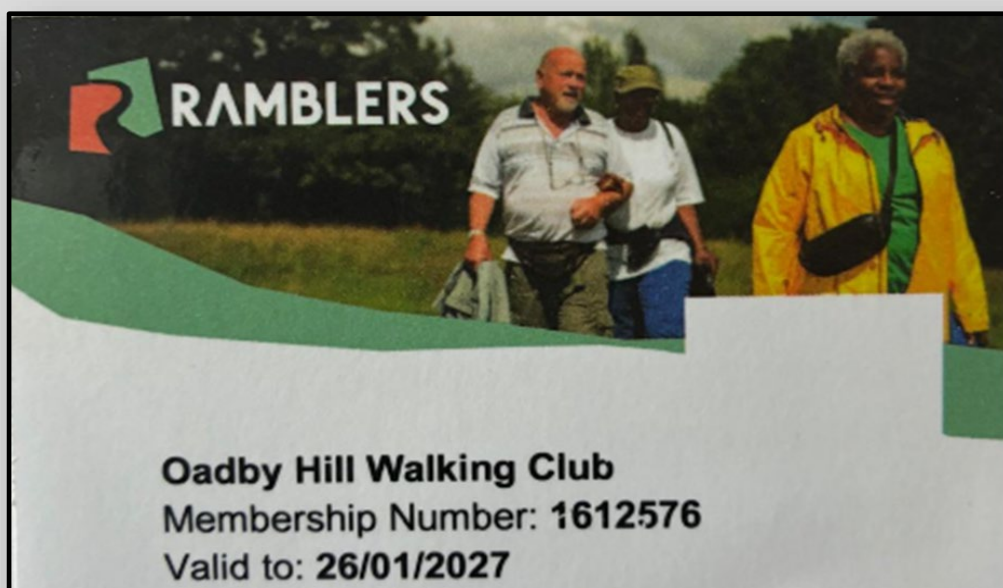
- [Make The Right Choice](#)
- [Care & Proofing](#)
- [Recycle My Gear](#)
- [Recycle My Run](#)
- [Our planet](#)

Cotswold Outdoors Discount Card

This year, Cotswold Outdoor, Runners Need & 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 has decided to produce a Membership Card for club members to use if they want to take advantage of the discount offered.

I would suggest that members keep a photo of the OHWC membership card & the Ramblers Card together in their phone wallets for use in the stores.

Please print this page, & cut out the cards illustrated below



Meetings

Unless otherwise stated in this Newsletter or via email, monthly club meetings are held on the Tuesday following the Sunday coach walk at either the **Wigston Conservative Club, 38 Long Street, Wigston, Leicester, LE18 2AH** or **The Blackbird Pub, Blackbird Road, LE4 0FW** at **7.30pm**.

November's meeting will take place on Tuesday 3rd at The Blackbird Pub - All OHWC club members are welcome.



Club Media & Bank Details

Website	www.oadbyhillwalkingclub.com
Email	ohwcmail@gmail.com
Safeguarding Email	OHWCsafeguarding@gmail.com
Facebook	Private Group: Oadby Hillwalking Club group Public Page: OadbyHillwalking Club
Instagram	Oadby Hillwalking Club
WhatsApp	OHWC WhatsApp Community
Bank Details	Barclays Bank
Account Name	OHWC
Account Number	50124990 Please quote surname & month of walk (i.e., Smith July)
Sort code	20-49-08

OHWC Committee 2026– 2027

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
Communication & Social	Gala Suarez	07810 063353
Safeguarding	Tim Akers	07855 969183