



June 2019 Newsletter

May was a very busy but satisfying month. I must start with the Steel Town 20 and thank all of those involved in the preparation in particular, the CHG trustees led by Geoff Haggon. I'd also like to thank Laura Pidcock MP, the sponsors, the volunteers and of course, you the participants.

It was great to see so many people walking and enjoying themselves. The weather just about held off and the countryside looked spectacular. I think everyone enjoyed the night time too; Honest Jack were fantastic, the food was filling and most people took the opportunity to self 'medicate' to ease the stiff legs and sore feet.

The trustees will be meeting to debrief later this month so anyone wishing to comment on the event please feel free to get in touch. We have big plans for next year's event and I'll put that date out as soon as it has been decided.

A big thank you to Mark Athey, Mark Rowlands and Brenda Beveridge who've led walks for me over the past few months. If I'm away, working or incapacitated the walks don't go ahead without other people in the group. With that being said, I'd like to have people undergo training to be walk leaders. I'm exploring a few options at the minute and will keep you posted.

Okay, loads to tell you about including the return of the mid-week walks. Check the Hiking Academy too, my own project running in the first three weeks of the summer holidays.

June Highlights

- The Hiking Academy
- Mid-Week Walks
- Cheviot trip
- Walks timetable & Lakes walk

The Hiking Academy

Some of you will have noticed a new Facebook page I've created called the Hiking Academy. I will be running three 4 days courses, one course in each of the first three weeks of the summer holidays where people can come and build their walking fitness, discover some of the fantastic County Durham countryside and spend time with friends

and family. There will only be 15 places per course with 4 hikes over 4 consecutive days, Monday - Thursday. You'll receive a T shirt and medal on completion of the course. I will be putting more info on The Hiking Academy Facebook page but the dates are

Academy 1	Monday 22nd July – Thursday 25th July
Academy 2	Monday 29th July – Thursday 1st August
Academy 3	Monday 5th August – Thursday 8th August

For more info contact me on 07584197778 or keiron@mapematix.com

Mid-Week Walks

The mid-week walks return in June. These walks will begin at **6.30pm**.

Wednesday 12th June - Blanchland Loop - meet at top car park at Blanchland. Drinks in Lord Crewe Arms afterwards. Approx 4 miles.

Wednesday 19th June - Stoney Heap Loop - meet at Jolly Drovers in Leadgate. Drinks in Jollys afterwards. Approx 4 miles.

Wednesday 26th June - Derwent Reservoir - Pow Hill to Millshield. Drinks at Boat Shack or Punchbowl afterwards. Approx 7.5 miles

Looking forward to seeing you there, hopefully we'll get some sunny evenings!

Cheviot Trip

On Saturday June 29th, our Cheviot man, Jim Francis will be leading a trip for the group. If we get numbers in advance we can book in the pub, Jim tells me. We would leave Consett Tesco at 9am

Cheviot Hills summer walk – Consett Hiking Group

Distance: @12 mile circular walk. Medium difficulty. May not be suitable for young children.

Alwinton
Morpeth
Northumberland

Nearest postcode: NE65 7BQ

Allow 1 hr, 30 minutes to drive from Consett Tesco to Alwinton ready to walk.

Proposed date: 29th June 2019.

Start/finish: at the carpark, 100 metres along from the Rose & Thistle pub, Alwinton. The carpark is pay and display and there are toilets. We can have a drink/dinner in the pub which is very nice.

June Walks Timetable

Sunday June 2nd 9.30am - Parkhead loop led by Mark Rowlands. Around Collier Law to Waskerley Reservoir and back to Parkhead Station. 7.6 miles. Meet at Parkhead Station DL13 2ES

Sunday June 9th 9.30am - Castleside Loop. Meet at telescopes for a solid 8 miles skirting around the paths of Castleside and a good climb back up to Consett.

Sunday June 16th 9.30 am - Jim Arden's Land of Oak and Iron Walk. Meet at Blackhill park by the bottom gates for the walk he created for Land of Oak and Iron.

Sunday 23rd TBC

Sunday 30th June 9.30am - Derwent Reservoir Pow Hill to Millshield. Meet at Pow Hill Car Park. Approx 7.5 miles.

Lakes Walk

Saturday 15th June The Eastern Martindale Fells - 14 miles, 6-8 hours. A long walk but not as difficult as some of the rounds. 10 Wainwrights in this walk starting at Howtown.

Meet at Consett Tesco at 8am.

*Does not include mid-week walks