

Attention New Members/First time Weekend

Have you never had the chance to experience it for your first time?

Now that I have got your attention, Rob and Blaine invite you new members and members who haven't been away with the group before on a fabulous trip to the Peak District on 04/02/2005 to 06/02/2005 at the bargain cost of just £18.00.

We have booked the whole hostel at Hathersage in the heart of the glorious Peak District. The walks will be easy to moderate (grade D) and there will be a large emphasis on getting to know each other and social bonding.

We intend to have a meal in the famous Little John pub across the road from the hostel and then enjoy a (few) drinks during the rest of the evening.

Sunday will commence with a fairly easy walk and hopefully end in one of the best cafes in the peak District.

For further information please contact:

Rob Stevens 0776 4800 892 or Blaine Quigley 0797 4962 785

To book on this weekend, please send cheques with the booking form to:

Blaine Quigley, 156 Hucknall Rd, Sherwood, Nottingham.

You would be COMPLETELY MAD to miss this weekend.

Easter Weekend 2005 Amendment

Holwick Camping Barn, Low Way Farm, near Barnard Castle, County Durham
Easter weekend: 24th - 28th March 2004
(This replaces the Northumberland option, which had to be changed because the accommodation was unsuitable for an extended four night stay.)

Holwick camping barn in a village near the market town of Barnard Castle, has been booked for our sole use from 24th - 28th March for 20 people. This is a beautiful, wild and rugged part of the country, sandwiched between the Yorkshire Dales and Northumberland. Walking will be in the Durham Dales (highlights: High Force, Low Force and Cauldron Snout waterfalls, Pennine Way), Weardale and possibly Hadrians Wall. It is envisaged that walks will be on the longer side - 12-15 miles,

although if there are volunteers to lead, shorter walks may be available.

There are plenty of great pubs in the area (including one half a mile from the camping barn), enough tea-shops and a few outdoor shops thrown in - what more could you want for a great Easter break?

Bookings open at the new members pub meet on Wednesday 5th January. Booking forms and cheques for £27.00 for four nights made payable to Martin Burkinshaw. Alternatively send cheques and booking forms after 5th January to Martin at 19 Gladstone Street, Long Eaton, Nottingham, NG10 1DG. Further details from Martin (MARTIN@toshmund.freeserve.co.uk) or Wendy Ferguson (wendyferguson196@hotmail.com)

Footprint

Hobbit Found in Lake District



Gary 'Bilbo' Oldsfoot - The first hobbit found in the British Isles

Anthropologists were today amazed at the discovery of a 5ft 9" 'hobbit' in Ennerdale in the Lake District.

Mince

He appears to be a close relative of modern humans, sharing many similarities with you and me. He was observed walking like a human, but more rapidly, in what bio-metricians refer to as a 'power mince'. He also sometimes walks backwards, perhaps to check for the approach of predators.

Reproduction

Unlike modern man he is able to talk for hours without stopping for breath. He was also capable of understanding most spoken communication. Music is obviously a very important part of the Hobbit culture, with the creature displaying a real keenness for 'Karaoke', clear proof of it's link with the similar

'hobbit' found in the far east. From his conversation he was eager to attempt reproduction with a female.

Dark

He is also believed to be equally at home in aquatic environments, taking to the water at every opportunity, clad in a pair of speedo style 'Speedo' swimming trunks that were last fashionable in the early Jurassic period. The creature had remarkable powers of night vision, scorning a head torch even in the early hours of morning, preferring to find his way around rocks, puddles and other obstacles by bumping into and falling over them.

One Ring

The hobbit was curiously reluctant to talk about his one ring, or let anyone put their finger in 'his precious'.

Editorial

Well, as 2004 draws to a close it is (a) my first Footprint (b) time to look back on the past year (c) time to think of next years ambitions (d) prepare for some serious retail therapy in Gaynor sports, in Ambleside. If you do (d) though, the first 3 months of 2005 maybe suffered in traction...Good new year blurb there Liz?!?! Takes no prisoners, or shoppers on her trips - Bless!!! Yes, I have the honour of doing the final editorial - cheers Dave. We have almost worked out who is the editor and who is the gimp. I think I am the gimp's assistant - definitely heard "gimp" in the sentence (his ears may have been blocked by the black leather mask/hood he was wearing at the time - D.)

The group is still growing, with a regular core/foundation. The year has offered the normal variety of walks/weekends away. I think Bradgate Park must have the record for the most "Toilets". Most people describe the walk by Villages/Pubs...it's a refreshing change, some of the faces at the startpoint were...concerned? We were stood in "one of the top doggin' car parks of Leicestershire" no less. We also saw Malcolm Shotton!!! We have now got a new impetus of walk leaders/weekend organisers, probably due to Jonny Boy's rousing speech at the AGM...something along the line of "pull your fingers out". He made Tim Collins sound like a "wishy-washy Barefoot Doctor". The conservation weekends, still enjoy an amazing amount of enthusiasm. The wardens appear a bit dismissive of our capabilities at the start of the day, but by 2.30 we are able to say "Come on, you must have something you want us to do?". They then degenerate, mostly due to the same characters..."Posh-birds" that swear/frighten the warden with certain stories?

The AGM saw a healthy amount of interest in committee posts. With some "pro-active personalities" on board (what do I mean by that then?). Remember, this group is all about YOU out there, so if you want to say something about the direction of the group speak to a committee member, turn up at a meeting, get involved in organising something. Just do..."something"!!!! I will get off my soapbox now...

Finally personally, I have had a hard year at work, but with the potential to play as hard, it's been good. We seem to cover a wide spectrum of interests/abilities - but our enjoyment of the outdoors/good company is a unifying feature of the group. May I take this opportunity, on behalf of Dave and myself, to thank you for your submissions to Footprint (long may they continue...) and wish you an enjoyable festive season. I hope you have an enjoyable break, in whichever way you celebrate/interpret it.

Martin Burkinshaw. PS, All of this heartfelt twaddle - don't worry - next issue will be in the old theme of "Smiths song titles". I know, "that joke isn't funny anymore" but "what difference does it make". Gary O' - Churchills, New Years Eve - "Death of a disco dancer"/"Panic". It was worth the weekend fee, alone...

NDWG Committee

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Website Address - <http://www.ndwg.co.uk/index.html>

NDWG Horoscopes - with Madame Guyrena and her Red Indian spirit guide Running Sore

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21) - The Archer

Your planet is JUPITER which is the sign of OPPORTUNITY. Its also a giant gas planet so the combination of gas and a big big red spot could limit your OPPORTUNITIES.

Your relationship elevator is going up. Unfortunately you started in the basement and it's a very tall building. This month you'll want to spend more time with someone you think is special but finding them will be another thing. Look for them in the elevator coming down or perhaps they are in the lobby waiting for your elevator. Try asking security if they will make an announcement for that special person. Anyway, however you find them, the stage is set for your relationships to improve and mature. If possible, try planning something unique with that someone special. Don't just offer them a sandwich from your packed lunch.

Capricorn - (Dec 22 - Jan 19th) - The Goat

Your planet is SATURN which is the sign of LIMITS. You are an EARTH sign and you are in the tenth house, the house of CAREERS. Put these together and we can see EARTH CAREERS SATURN LIMITS. So the end of the world is nigh, but only for Capricorns.

This is particularly unfortunate for you as this month was to be the month when everything started to go your way. The 15th is a good day to buy stock and a family heirloom may turn out to more than just the old Italian painting you think it is. On the 23rd your cellulite will clear up and you will learn to cope with your crippling sense of inadequacy. The 30th is a good day to marry Brad Pitt. On the 5th your Caribbean Honeymoon is interrupted by the news that you are the heir to the Throne of England. On the 11th you finally grow up, learn to take responsibility for your own actions and stop blaming them on distant astronomical objects. So your immanent demise must be really gutting.

Readers Boots



Anonymous of Derby has sent in 'Fifi and Angel', just for you! They come as a couple, both a petite size 8 1/2, real leather, mmm-mmm, slightly worn around the edges but well broken in and oh so comfortable to slip inside. They enjoy being up to the eyelets in the dung, nothing is too dirty for this pair. They love to be laced up tight, taken on the rough stuff and have their vibram pounded until they're dripping wet...

Send a picture of your boots to Footprint, all correspondence will be held in the strictest confidence.

BLOOD DONORS

Have you ever thought of giving blood but don't know how to? There is still a major shortage of donors in the UK. A lot of people use excuses such as they 'can't get to donor sessions'. There are times and places to suit everyone, with day and evening sessions organized somewhere in your area. I'm the 'O' blood group, very common so they obviously don't need more? They do! In fact this is the blood group that they normally have the biggest lack of. It will hurt a little! Local anaesthetics are now available for donors, however from experience they hurt more than the donation.

I myself have been a donor now for two years. As a blood donor you would be asked to donate once every four months. The next phase of collections in Derby will be next March, nearer the time I will publish details on the digest. For information and to find out about donating in Nottingham try the web site www.blood.co.uk.

Giving blood only takes up your time and is a valuable contribution to the NHS.

Thank you

Sian

Rob Stevens' Top 10 Places to Visit

In his time in the group, Rob has explored many out of the way nooks and crannies, often with the help of his close friend and 'partner in crime' Blaine Quigley. Some of these places can only be enjoyed by those amongst us who have some technical skill, flexibility and a certain amount of stamina and as I'm sure Rob and Blaine would agree, not all of them are for everyone. If however you do regard yourself as an adventurous soul, you might want to visit some of these places. As is amply demonstrated by Rob and Blaine, you won't be the same person afterwards.

1. Flash Bottom, Staffs
2. Brown Tongue, Scafell Pike, Lakes
3. Lickey End, West Mids
4. Twat, Orkney Isles
5. Brown Willy, Bodmin Moor, Cornwall
6. Great Cock-up, Cumbria
7. Bell End, West Midlands
8. Fay Y Big, Brecon beacons
9. Brown End Farm, Manifold valley
10. Hucking Fell, Peak District



Fog and Fireworks in the Lake District

Black Sail Youth Hostel is a lonely hut on a mountain side; 2 hours walk from Wasdale Head, 6 miles from Bowness Knott car park, 4 miles from Ennerdale Youth Hostel and only 300 yards away for those thick skinned enough to ignore all instructions and drive to the Hostel. Slowly people arrived at the hostel, all with a story to tell, mostly along the lines of "which %&*@ booked a hostel up here". The Wasdale walkers only made it to Black Sail at 1.00am after using the lights of the hut as a beacon for the last few miles. To be fair they had spent 3 hrs in the pub before starting to walk in.

Next day dawned dreary and dull but in true NDWG fashion this made no difference to the hard core amongst us. Consensus was that going up a hill for a view of the inside of a cloud would do us all good. As Black Sail Hostel was already up a hill we had to start by going down a valley. Eventually we did start to climb and quickly the murk enveloped us and people started to disappear in the gloom. Soon it became apparent that there was a bit of a drop to left and right of us and that we were climbing a substantial ridge that led to the top of Scoat Fell. Our walks leader, weekend organiser and general all round good bloke (Chris Seaman) kept us together and eventually the murk darkened in front of us. It was Pillar and for a good reason.... it's steep. On the basis of adding an even harder core to the hard core walk (the soft core had driven their dodgy knees to Buttermere for an outing to a tea shop) five walkers bottled the climb up Pillar and went to the pub. Two pints and a sticky toffee pudding later the rock hard core exited the pub and faced the long trudge back to the Hostel. Two hours and a few raindrops later we opened the door of Black Sail to be greeted by a warm fuggy atmosphere and it wasn't dinner.

Black Sail has three bunk rooms, a kitchen and a single common room with a pot bellied stove. Add in 20 walkers soaked to the skin. Mix

liberally with wet gear hanging from the rafters and leave to roast for a few hours once the stove has got going (thanks Jenny). The outcome of these ingredients was an atmosphere you could eat with a spoon and a feeling of great comradeship. You can imagine our joy when our gallant leader invited us to stand in the rain again whilst he let a firework off every 10 minutes. This feeling was not at all affected by the smell of the cesspit and having to wave sparklers around. Suddenly the mood changed to one of anticipation as Chris brought out his fireworks including his 'special rocket' which resembled something out of the Anne Summers catalogue (batteries not included). (How do you know that Guy? - Ed.) The fuse was lit and Chris ran for cover. Next thing we knew a succession of rockets lit the night sky accompanied by oohs and aahs of appreciation. Show over and a cracking dinner was served. Well done to all who slaved over a hot stove, I promise I will do the washing up next time.

Day 2 dawned dreary and duller than day 1. Tempted by occasional glimpses of mountains the "it will brighten up crowd" got us motivated and off we went, over Scarth Gap Pass to Buttermere for a swift one. Once out of the pub people started to think of driving home. The choice of the "steep but sort route" won out and up we went to the top of Red Pike where for once the clouds parted and we had some stunning views.

From there it was back to the Hostel and people went their separate ways.

Thanks to Chris and Heather, with help from Nicky for just the best mouthwatering food, for organising a great weekend and thanks to everybody for producing the atmosphere.

Guy Mullins

New Walks Leader Says 'Hi'

For those of you that don't know me, I'm Robert Stevens, the new walks organizer. I know that you would all like to thank Teresa Billington for putting together the fantastic programme of walks over the last few years. I know its a hard act to follow, but hopefully I will do an equally impressive job with perhaps a few new ideas as well.

I have walked extensively in the Peak District, Snowdonia, Lake District and the Scottish Highlands for many years. I have successfully climbed to the summit of Mt. Blanc four times and I really excel at winter mountaineering. Its not all 'hardcore' stuff though. I also enjoy a pleasant stroll along Dovedale or enjoy a social night out (with a few beers of course).

To ensure myself and Dave Bettridge provide the type of walks and weekends you all enjoy, please feel free to let us know about any ideas you have for walks and weekends away for the forthcoming summer programme.

Hope to see you soon,

Robert Stevens

robert.stevens@nottsc.gov.uk

Dave.bettridge@btopenworld.com



GENERAL COUNCIL 2005 - 8th-10th April at the University of Nottingham

The Ramblers Association's General Council returns to Nottingham in 2005 and NDWG members are needed to help out at this important event.

General Council is the annual conference of the Ramblers Association, bringing together delegates and representatives from all over Britain for a weekend of discussion, debate and socialising. It will also include the second 20s-30s members conference, following the popularity of the Exeter event earlier this year. GC is a great opportunity to find out more about the Ramblers nationally and a chance to meet other members from across Britain.

Some may recall that GC took place in Nottingham back in 1999 when NDWG (then in its infancy with around 90 members) made its national debut as the first major 20s-30s RA Walking Group. Sixteen members attended and delegates were so overwhelmed by the Group's success that a motion advocating the formation of 20s-30s groups nationwide was passed overwhelmingly, helping pave the way to the network of over 45 20s-30s Groups that we have today. It really was a major turning point in the RA's development.

It's very unusual for the event to return to the same venue so soon and provides a unique opportunity to show how far NDWG has come over the last 6 years.

Volunteers Needed

The event runs from Friday evening through to Sunday lunchtime. Much of the organisation is done by local members, and once again I'm in need of volunteers from NDWG to manage the "roving microphones" in the main lecture theatre during the conference sessions. People are not expected to help for the entire weekend - just 3-4 hours during one of the following time periods: Friday Night, Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon, or Sunday morning.

Volunteers are entitled to attend as much of the conference as they wish, will be entitled to free meals during the time they volunteer, and can also take part in the social events which take place at the University and in Nottingham. If you are interested in helping out please contact me as soon as possible as I need to get as many volunteer names finalised by the end of January at the latest.

Kevin Matthews

Tel: 0115 914 5653

Email: kevin.matthews5@ntlworld.com

Weekend Trip – 29th-31st October – Peak District - Mary Flintoff

Hollingsclouth Weekend

Hollingsclouth is a charming but tiny village near Longnor and Buxton in the peaks. We were staying at Mary's school residential centre luckily minus bells, detentions and reprimands which most of the group seem to remember from their school days and don't get me started on the slipper and canes! The weekend started in the usual fashion with the arrival of Rob and Blaine whose level of conversation was such that a Smutometer needed to be erected on the board. Rob raced ahead with little effort and Mary, surprising, lagged behind. The trickled arrival of everyone else prompted an exodus to the not so local pub in Longnor where apparently the £10 steak offer was gladly received.

On Saturday morning the more adventurous set off on a 17(+) mile walk smothered in fog and led by Gary. Neil takes up the tale at this point...

"Seven of us set out a bit earlier than the others for Gary's sixteen miler. It was a cloudy, misty start but pleasant enough. A couple of slurry farms were thrown into the mix, poles proving useful to determine depths of crap immediately in front. I needed first aid quite early on due to an inadvertent hand on a piece of barbed wire. Rachel duly administered iodine and helped sterilise as well as thin the gushing blood. Oh well, it was Halloween so I was appropriately attired with a ghoulish half red hand!

We trekked over nice moorland and soggy farmer's fields and passed 'The Mermaid' too early for a beer. Gary feverishly complaining about its apparent restaurant instead of pub appearance.

The gloom lifted a bit and the sun greeted us as we headed towards Upper Hulme. Gary typically strode ahead, reccyng on route. Actually to be fair he did reccy it 3 years ago and it was an amalgamation of two walks.

A stop in 'The Rock' pub, replenished our stomachs, Sian fell in love with the pub cat, and Gary amazed us with his fact that you couldn't fold a piece of paper 50 times, and if you did how thick would it be! I got lost at this point and started talking about football of course, which equally didn't seem to illicit much of an intelligent response.

A buzz past the Roaches, before heading up to Flash Bottom which Gary tried to make all kinds of jokes out of. Flash! Aaah! Aaah! The highest village in England!

(he does in his best Freddie Mercury impersonation.) Then another pint at The Travellers, scene of later warblings. We then steadily wended our way back to the school buildings on what was becoming a fine afternoon, if a bit chilly. All in all a fine 16.4 mile walk, well done Gary. Good company all round and very muddy feet, socks, boots, trousers etc etc!"

Rob and Blaine left little to the imagination when they donned the tightest of cycling shorts ready for a few hours in the saddle, and then possibly an epic tour of the peaks. A more relaxed group of us set off on a figure of eight walk including the beautiful Chrome hill lead by Mary.

Saturday night hailed heaven for some and hell for others (Rachel and me!) with the advent of Karaoke in the pub. Gary proved to be somewhat of an eighties retro star with his rendition of "Tainted Love" among others. Neil rivaled the crooners of the 50s with "Mack the Knife". Funny how the rest of us seemed to sound better as the alcohol levels increased. The CD of the collective group's version of "Summer Nights" will be in the shops for Christmas, where it will make an attractive set of novelty drinks coasters. Our efforts were, however, were not appreciated by Rob who found local talent of all together a different kind. Driving back was somewhat of a squashed affair; however, Diane found a softer place than most by sitting on Rob and Blaine in the boot of Chris' car (I should take that softness as an insult Di! Ed).

Sore heads on Sunday resulted in a rather later start than normal. Rob led a muddy but relaxed walk which finished in a trip to the "Quiet Woman". Not to be recommended (being quiet not the pub)! Our pace to the pub was somewhat hastened when the husband of Rob's talent screeched up in his car.

Thanks to all who came on this impromptu weekend. It was great to have a mix of new and old (sorry established) members together. Look out for an overnighter at Hollingsclouth in the Spring.

Mary Flintoff and Neil Thompson

Difficulty Level? A Cakewalk!

Aidy and James and I managed to get stuck in numerous roadworks on the A1 and A66, arriving at the barn last! The sleeping bags were put out and then we went off to meet the others, in the Old Crown pub, to sample the beers brewed on the premises. I took the food orders for our Saturday evening meal in the pub where there was a good atmosphere and a chance to catch up on the gossip.

Rachel took a car full back to the barn and a couple of others drove back too. This saved us the 2 mile walk!

Saturday morning and everyone was up early to find a damp, grey, misty morning. Breakfast and sandwich making ran smoothly and everyone was ready to walk by 9am. Alan led the walk of 14 miles up onto Carrock Fell and Knott, which was mainly off-path. The morning stayed misty but cleared a little in the afternoon. Everyone was again in good spirits and chatted most of the day. At lunchtime I treated everyone to a bit of ginger cake, which seem to go down well. Next stop was a late pub break in Caldbeck where we stayed for an hour and then the short walk back to the barn. The walk ended up being 16 miles.

Jackie and Roger had also taken cake and so we were able to have tea and cake while we were waiting to get showered and ready to go out. How very civilised!

We took cars down to the pub around 7.30, just enough time for a pint before dinner at 8.00. We were late getting into the dining room (too

much cake perhaps! - ed) but when we did, the food arrived quickly and good it was too. Afterwards we returned to the cosy bar with an open fire to drink the fine beers on offer. Thanks to Rachel who chose not to drink did a shuttle run 3 times to get us all back to the barn. The table in the barn was good and strong enough for some of us to do the table traverse, although most of us failed. We finally retired to bed.

Sunday and everyone was up in good time again. Roger took us down to pick up the cars from the village while others got breakfast, had showers and did sandwiches. Packing up, loading the cars and tidying the barn got done in good time before heading off to Mungrisedale to the start point for the walk.

I led the walk today up the valley and onto Bowscale fell and then down the valley on the other side, down to the river. The Cumbria Way was on the other side but no-one wanted to do a river crossing so we followed the bank on the other side down till we met a bridleway which we stayed on for a mile and then met up with the road for the last mile.

The walk was 8 miles and finished at 2pm. By a bizarre and spooky coincidence the cars were parked almost outside a pub so we changed out of our boots and called in for a drink before leaving for home.

Pete Wilson

Notts Weekend Walkers

Our new sister Group, the Notts Weekend Walkers, for members in and around their 40s, has proved a great success. Over the past few months attendances on walks have steadily increased and a new 2005 programme will be published shortly. Many thanks to the members of NDWG who have supported this new group by leading walks and supporting events. If you are interested in finding out more please email notts.walkers@ntlworld.com or tel: 0115 914 5653

Cute Warden and 'Rambling Knickers' make for Good Weekend

The NDWG conservation weekend at Calke Abbey was possibly the best yet. Not sure if this was because of the fab crowd, the splendid bunkhouse accommodation at Holme Farm, or the rather cute warden (whoops did I say that?!)

Sycamore is considered to be a weed - it is not a native tree species and therefore does not support as much wildlife as trees like Oak or Ash. Removing the sycamore increases the light levels within the woodland and therefore encourages native trees and ground flora to grow.



Pick me! Pick me! The gang do their best to attract the cute warden...

Heavy rain forced us to have an early lunch in the mini bus. Spirits were not dampened however, even though several people had holes burnt in t-shirts/fleeces from flying sparks and Sarah even managed to rip her trousers. Thankfully she was wearing large "rambler"

knickers!

Oh, and the conservation work on the Saturday was good fun too! Sycamore trees had invaded woodland around the old brick kiln. The trees had been felled and sawn up using a chain saw and our task was to stack the larger (some very large!) sections to be used for firewood. Anything smaller than an arm was thrown onto the huge bonfire.

A curry at the Melbourne Arms in the evening was followed by a pint or two in Ticknall and a late walk back through the grounds of Calke Abbey, via several cowpats in my case.

Thanks to everyone who came along and joined in with the conservation work, making it another good weekend away with NDWG!

Date	Event	Where?	Organiser
Wednesday 5th January	New Members Meet	Nottingham (Pitcher and Piano)	
Welcome our lovely new intake and witness the sorting hat do it's thing...no wait - I'm thinking of Hogwarts! Get down to 'The Pitcher', catch up with the post Christmas news and get ready to make new friends.			
Thursday 13th Jan	Pub Meet	Derby	Sian Roberts
Welcome to the first of a series of new Derby Pub Meets. This will take place in Ryans Bar (Nr St Peters Church).			
Saturday 15th January	Dancefloor Mayhem	Nottingham - Stealth	David Millington
Gimme a Shabba! Meet in the Orange Tree (bottom of Sherwood Street) at 9pm for a couple of drinks before heading into 'Stealth' at 10.30 for an evening of house, techno, breaks and beats. I'd tell you who was playing if the listing had been published. Watch the group website and email list for more information or call David Millington (07808 170914) or djmillington@huginn-munninn.demon.co.uk for more details nearer the time.			
Friday 21st Jan	Curry Night	Derby	Gary Olds
Gary's taking you all out for a curry in Derby. I assume you'll be doing what they do in the home of curry (Bradford) and going out for a couple of drinks first. Details for this evening will be confirmed, nearer to the date. In the interim, please contact Gary Olds on 01332 746663, or garyolds@tiscali.co.uk to express an interest. Top tip - A large naan makes an ideal soundproof helmet in the event of Gary singing...			
Fri 11th February 2005	Winter Beer Festival	Derby	Sian Roberts
This begins at 1600 hrs onwards (until you fall over!)			
People attending the ball the next day (which is a hefty percentage of you!) are advised to get there early, get drunk quick, go home and sober up enough to do it all again in ball gowns the next night.			
The Notts Derby Walking Group Ball - Saturday 12th February 2005! Contact David Millington for Tickets 6 Dale Avenue Mapperley Nottingham NG3 6BU 07808 170914 djmillington@huginn-munninn.demon.co.uk			

Cinema Circle

How about meeting up for movies on a regular basis? So, I reckon Tuesday, 2nd week of the month, should keep us busy between the 1st Wednesday pub meets and 3rd Thursday meets. Easiest at the mo seems to be the UGC in the Cornerhouse in Nottingham, but I'm not against any other suggestions for future months. See the email list for more information. Ellie (tel. 07730 751129 or 0115 9270249)

If you've an idea for a social event or even better are prepared to organise one then let me know! Alison - alison.lacey@ntlworld.com



Halloween Evening Walk - Teresa Billington

Spooks and Ghouls and Freaks and Fools!

I was very impressed with the turnout on the walk with an excellent 27 people arriving, and most of them dressed up specially, at least I hope they were dressed up specially!



We had a brisk ramble through the depths of Sherwood Forest armed with illuminous swords, skulls and glowing pumpkins. Not many of us were recognisable due to many excellent costumes including Friar Tuck in tow. Owls were tooting, leaves were rustling in the wind, foxes howling in the distance. We were joined mid flow by our resident ghooly ghosts Chris and Roger, who appeared from the dark depths of the forest, although I'm sure they'd not been up to anything unusual. I think they said they'd been walking the dog...

All in all an excellent social walk, washed down in the local in Edwinstowe.

Teresa 'The Hitcher' Billington.