



The KFF NEWSLETTER

Note that there are many more photographs of club events in the Gallery on the Fellfarers' club website and on facebook.

Nº 17
October 2019

The KFF Monthly Draw.

Recent winners are:

June - Tony Walshaw

July - Fred Underhill

August - Richard Mercer

September - Fred Underhill

October - Krysia Niepokojczka

New Editor Required

No-one has volunteered to take over production of this newsletter when the Editor retires at the AGM in January so the next newsletter will be the last one you will receive. The committee will now consider how best to keep communication lines with members (particularly those without email) open.

High House

A couple of points were raised at the last committee meeting :

Fire Safety. A group arriving at High House discovered that one of the hobs had been left turned on. The previous group had been Fellfarers (not on a KFF club weekend). Apart from the waste of energy (and cost to the club) the potential fire risk is obvious so please ensure that gas and electric hobs, cooker etc. are turned off as soon as you have finished cooking and check that they are all turned off when you leave.

Unwelcome Visitors. It was reported that a stranger arrived late at High House during a KFF club weekend, expecting to be given a bed for the night. He was turned away. The committee suspects that this event may be connected to recent requests to the Hut Booking Secretary for individual bedspaces - resulting from the marking of High House on Google Maps as "Hostel". Walkers navigating by mobile phone and looking for last minute accommodation will naturally think that beds are likely to be available. If you are present when strangers arrive you will of course turn them away - but please ask why they thought they would get a bed there. Please pass any useful information to the committee.

Future Social Events

The Scottish Hotel Meet - 22nd - 27th March 2020.

As announced in the last newsletter, next years Scottish Hotel Meet will be a return to The Alexandra Hotel in Fort William. The cost for a shared room is £192.50 per person or £240.00 for a single room (dinner, bed and breakfast).

It is now time for the club to make a firm booking so, if you wish to come along or would like more information, please contact Clare Fox (01539 727531 or email: clarefox50@hotmail.com) as soon as possible.

The Limestone Link - April 2020.

As reported in the last newsletter, the Social Sub-committee is planning a club walk along the Limestone Link which, thanks to Rod Muncey's legacy, will include free transport to the start. Briefly, the details are:

Members make their own way to Arnside promenade, where the coach will pick them up and take them to Kirkby Lonsdale (for the full 13 miles) or somewhere en route (for those wanting a shorter walk). On finishing, we will gather at the Albion for a bar meal before making our own ways back home.

Please note that the planned date (18th April) has had to be changed. You will be informed as soon as a new date is confirmed.

Seats must be booked in advance so that we have the right size of coach. A dozen members have booked so far but the committee thought that there might be more members wanting to attend so if you are interested please let Clare Fox (details above) know.

Recent Club Events

Week 20th-27th June 2019

The 8th Continental Camping Meet. Maritime Alps, France.

A dozen members (Roger + Margaret, Colin + Val, Hugh + Angie, Tony + Sue, Norman + Jenny, Clare + Mick) met up as planned on the edge of the Mercantour National Park in Southern France. Many made a month or more of it, travelling slowly and exploring along the way. A heatwave was building and high in the mountains was just the place to be. What mountains they are too! Fine rocky aiguilles and snow-filled couloirs loomed over us as we strolled on well-signed paths through a sublime landscape. Some even managed an easy summit or two. Each day was, of course rounded off with a social gathering, food, beer and wine, and entertainment from the guitars of Colin and Norman. For those who wish to know more about the trip, there will be a slideshow early next year and there is a fine set of photographs (with details of each day) in the gallery on the club's website.

Tuesday 25th June 2019

Midweek walk No.110. Maritime Alps.

When you are walking every day for a week, does it matter which is the midweek walk? I think that Tuesday's walk was arguably the most interesting of some very fine routes so let's call it that one: From the roadhead at the large Sanctuary of Madonne de Fenestre to the Col de Fenestre, an ascent of only 1900 feet to meet a family of very relaxed ibex, and then an undulating and sometimes exciting traverse across rock and snow to the col of Pas de Landres with, for those with a bit left in their legs, an ascent to the splintered summit of Cime de l'Agnelliere (8,858 ft.). We smartened up in the evening for a fine dinner on the balcony of a local restaurant. Well we deserved it.

Tuesday 9th July 2019

Evening Walk - A New Hutton Ramble.

Hughie writes: A drizzly evening didn't deter 14 members and guests enjoying a two hour walk from Graham and Irene's house at Hayfellside. Through mainly fields with occasional minor roads, the walk went as far east as Hawkrigg before returning to Hayfellside via the lovely house called Hill Top, formerly Holme Park School. A drink in the Station Inn rounded off the evening nicely. Thanks to Graham and Irene for a lovely walk.

Weekend 12th-15th July 2019

High House Quiet Weekend

Thirteen 'local' members turned up at High House over the weekend and were delighted to find that our remote outpost (Peak District) was represented too: Cheryl and Jason with guests Ian and Sue, up for some classic Wainwright bagging. On a sunny Saturday a team of five ladies led Mick via Taylorgill to Sty Head and Great End, with a brief look into Cust's Gully and Branch Gully (wet and greasy). On Sunday a team of nine members had a 'Climbing for All' session on the Glaciated Slab in Combe Gill. All recorded with photographs in the gallery on the website.

Wednesday 24th July 2019

Midweek Walk No. 111. Braithwaite

Norman writes: A sunny morning and we assembled at the bridge in Braithwaite as planned - Mick, Clare, Colin, Val, Jenny, Norman, Tony, Sue, Frank, Jan, David, Graham, Irene, Ruth and Kevin. We headed off up the track towards Barrow Door, and the party separated with Jan, Kevin, Colin, Ruth, Tony, Sue, Jenny and Norman going over Stile End, Low Moss and Outsides, and rejoining the rest of the party at High Moss. We then followed the track under the crags at Long Comb and arrived at the col next to Sail and headed straight down the other side, eventually finding an old landslip depression for a lunch stop, with a direct view of Knott Rigg. A smattering of mizzle

encouraged the donning of many coloured jackets. After lunch we set off on the track following Rigg Beck down to the road, passing on our left, the ancient forest areas on the steep slopes of the Causey Pike ridge. A short stretch on the road and we crossed Newlands Beck to Ghyll Bank, stopping at the bridge where Jan, Ruth Jenny and Norman went for a dip in the deep waters under the bridge. Cool and Refreshing! From Ghyll Bank we went on the road to Stair where we soon picked up the riverside path to Little Braithwaite, and thence along by the river to Braithwaite via the campsite. Much warmer in the valley, we had gorgeous ice creams at the wonderful general store in the village centre

Saturday 3rd August 2019

Marshalling the Borrowdale Fell Race

The Editor has no report to offer but for those who wish to experience the delights of the race vicariously (and catch brief glimpses of some of our marshalls), Hughie has included a competitor's video via a Youtube link in the website gallery.

Tuesday 13th August 2019

Evening Walk - Mealbank

Twenty members and guests turned up on a delightfully sunny evening. Colin and Val led the group on an easy 5 mile walk on field and footpath from Mealbank.

Weekend 16th-18th August 2019

High House - Spirit of '34 Weekend

(A slightly competitive celebration of the Club's 85th Birthday)

Jan writes: There were 7 of us at High House for the spirit of '34 weekend. Two groups of two walked to the hut, thankfully on the better of the two wet and windy days. The tops were quiet!

Maja and her pal Graham caught the bus from Kendal to Thirlmere and walked via Blea Tarn to Watendlath (for coffee) and The Scafell (for crisps) then on to High House.

Ruth and Jan walked from Wall End Farm, Langdale (using a Bartholomew's map) via Esk Hause and Grains Ghyll to High House. They carried a primus for a cup of tea on arrival. (A bottle of wine might have been lighter - Maja did have some in her light weight water bottle).

Three 'modern day' members were also at High House and rumours are that they brought pillows and towels.

A good weekend. We decided everyone had won.

The Ed. adds: In the spirit of the event, there are even some monochrome photographs on the website.

Wednesday 21st August 2019

Midweek Walk No. 112 - Dufton

Norman reports - From the car park at Dufton we headed off up the lane to Pus Gill and on behind Dufton Pike upwards via Threlkeld Side, stopping at an old lime kiln, below White Rake, for a drink. Onward up onto the peaty moor and stopped for lunch, sheltering from the wind behind the shooting box near Great Rundale Tarn. Next, a peaty, boggy, tussocky trek in a southerly direction to the trig point near the edge of the moors at 692 m elevation. We followed a faint track along the better ground on the hill end and round to overlook High Cup Gill.

Mick adds: this has got to be the finest approach to High Cup. The rough grassy walk across Backstone Edge is more than compensated for by that sudden jaw-dropping revelation of the entirety of the valley head from above at Narrowgate Beacon. Much more impressive than the usual Pennine Way approaches.

Norman continues: Descent to the Narrow Gate Path was further to the NE to avoid the steep rocky slope. Then we followed this path back to Dufton, withstanding a short heavy horizontal shower of some intensity.

Mick interrupts again: As we stood looking across the Eden valley at an approaching shower an old fellow joined us. By way of conversation, Kevin said, "We're just looking at the rain."

Old fellow replied, "Aye, there'll be no passengers on it though. It'll be going to the cement works."

Norman (in his defence, with his hood up) added, "Is it a Lancaster? No, I think it's a Hercules." Classic Last of the Summer Wine.

So, getting the last word in, Norman again: Mick had previously

spotted (in Dufton) an old house name 'Lwonnin Fyeat' and we discussed what could be the meaning. As the house was at the end of the lane where we started the walk, his explanation of 'Lane Foot' seemed reasonable, as 'lonnin' for lane is fairly well known. In the cafe (excellent tea and cake) the local man confirmed the meaning and spoke the pronunciation of the second word as 'fyert'. Personally I've never heard this used for foot in the dialect, and we wondered if it had sneaked over the Pennines from the NE.

Tuesday 11th September 2019

Evening Walk around New England

Hughie writes: An early start of 5pm saw eight members gather in Over Kellet for this interesting walk. The 'New England' reference referred to the caravan site passed, but no one seemed to know why it was so named. A drink in the Eagles Head rounded off the last evening walk of the year. Thanks Sandra and Tony.

Weekend 13th-16th September 2019

High House Working Weekend

Maja reports that it was a very successful weekend with much work carried out. Here's the evening meal in full swing:



Wednesday 25th September 2019

Midweek Walk No. 113 - Round Roundthwaite

Twelve Fellfarers and two dogs met in the Tebay gorge for David Birkett's walk in one of the new parts of the Lakes National Park, the area between the A6 and the M6, with Shap to the north and Grayrigg to the south. The sky was a little gloomy but the company wasn't so it didn't really matter. The Editor was forced to play catch-up after experiencing real and imaginary traffic delays and was very grateful for the Fellfarers traditional, "We'll wait another few minutes just in case..."

David led us up the easy but wet bridleway on the north side of Jeffrey's Mount onto Roundthwaite Common. I remarked that there are usually fell ponies on these slopes and someone said, "They're behind you!" They were. The Whinfell Ridge looked rugged and much more interesting when seen across the valley of (Westmorland) Borrowdale than it feels when you are on it. Today it looked wild. The cloud lifted as we progressed across Winterscleugh and Whinash to the Breasthigh Road, recently resurfaced by the County Council and now ripped to shreds again (Off-roaders or storms? We didn't know).

Down at Bretherdale Head we surveyed the sad ruins of what had obviously been a large prosperous farm before we crossed the beck by its delightful (to look at) but worrying (to cross) **double-corbelled clapper bridge**, the only one I have ever seen.

Pam spotted a trig point marked on the map near the summit of North Side, just above the pleasant bridleway to Greenholme and scrambled off alone to bag it. More ruins of once-fine farms featured in the field-crossings that followed but Greenholme seemed a lively-looking little spot. We followed Birk Beck and the Lune back to our starting point. A fine walk and, for some, a real eye-opener on a part of the Lakes that few have ever seen, rounded off, inevitably on a D. Birkett outing, with refreshments in Tebay's The Cross Keys.

KFF Club Events for July – October 2019

Dates given for multi-day events below are from day of arrival to day of departure.

October 2019

No Committee Meeting

Tuesday 8th - Slide Show

'Cycling in India' by Sue and Tony.

Meet at 7.30 pm. Netherfield Cricket Club, Parkside Road, Kendal, for the first slide show of the season. Guests welcome. Light refreshments provided.

Weekend 18th-25th High House

is booked for Fellfarers.

Tuesday 22nd - Thursday 24th Away Meet at Rhydd Ddu

The Oread Hut at Rhydd Ddu has been booked for an away meet. The price is £5 per member per night (£10 per guest per night). *There are still a few bedspaces available. Contact Jan Lancaster on 07889 312706 to book your place.*

Wednesday 23rd - Midweek Walk No. 114

The midweek walk will be in North Wales. It will be agreed on the Tuesday evening so please come along with your ideas!

November 2019

Tuesday 5th - Committee Meeting at the Rifleman's Arms

Weekend 8th-11th High House Armistice Meet

is booked for Remembrance Weekend

Tuesday 12th - Slide Show

'Rostock and Two Smokin Mammals' (Swiss Via Ferrata and other stories) by Rose and Paul East.

Meet 7.30 pm. Netherfield Cricket Club, Parkside Road, Kendal. Guests welcome. Light refreshments provided.

Wednesday 20th - Midweek Walk No. 115

Crag Hill via Brethtersdale and back by the old turnpike road. Meet at 10 am. in layby south of Huck's Bridge on the A6 (GR: NY 552 037). Walking on bridle ways and fell paths, potentially wet. Distance 10 miles with 1000 ft of ascent
Leader Hugh Taylor 01524 762067

December 2019

Tuesday 3rd - Committee Meeting at the Rifleman's Arms

Wednesday 11th - Midweek Walk No. 116 and Christmas Lunch

Meet 10.30 am. Wilf's Cafe Staveley (GR 472 981) for coffee, followed by a short walk around Staveley. *Obtain a Frog Card at Wilf's if parking there.* Lunch at the Eagle and Child pub in Staveley at 12.30 pm. Leaders Irene and Graham Ramsbottom 01539725808

Please let Irene and Graham know if you are coming to the lunch by 4th December at the latest.

December continued:

Tuesday 17th - Christmas Social Evening

Meet 7pm. The Factory Tap, Aynam Road Kendal. A walk over Kendal Castle hill (weather dependent - torch advised) followed by a drink (and maybe a mince pie or two) in the Factory Tap. Guests welcome. Leader Clare Fox

Tuesday 24th - Friday 3rd January - High House

is booked for Fellfarers for Christmas and New Year

January 2020

Tuesday 7th - Committee Meeting at the Rifleman's Arms

Tuesday 24th December - Friday 3rd - High House

is booked for Fellfarers for Christmas and New Year

Saturday 11th - Charlie's Walk

Meet 10 am. The Riflemen's Arms, Greenside Road, Kendal. A walk over Cunswick Scar and lunch (optional) at the Union Jack Cafe, Kirkland. Leader David Birkett 01539 738280

Weekend 10th - 12th. The KFF 42nd Glencoe Meet

Three Clachaig chalets (14 bedspaces) have been booked for our annual winter mountaineering trip to Glencoe. *To book or for further information please contact Hugh Taylor: 01524 762067.*

Weekend 17th - 19th - High House

is booked for a Quiet Weekend. A walk/meal for Saturday will be planned on the Friday evening. Come along with ideas!

Tuesday 21st - Slide Show

'Review of the Fellfarers' Year 2019' by All of You.

Meet at 7.30 pm at the Netherfield Cricket Club (venue may change if so you will be informed). Guests welcome. Light refreshments provided.

The Review of the Fellfarers' Year only works because club members contribute their photographs, whether at club events or not. Please send the Editor (post: 50 Gillinggate, Kendal, LA94JB or email: michaelfox50@hotmail.com) your photographs before the end of December. Original prints will be returned.

Friday 31st - AGM

To be held at Netherfield Cricket Club, Parkside Road, Kendal at 7.30 pm for the 87th Annual General Meeting of K Fellfarers. Sandwiches provided.

Official business will be followed by a quiz: 'Whose Boots are These?' by Pam Hesletine. Prizes for the top three entries.

Wednesday 29th - Midweek Walk No. 117

Meet 10am. Wilf's Cafe Staveley (GR 472 981) for coffee. Walk starts at 10.30 prompt, a circular low level walk of approximately 5 hours. *Obtain a Frog Card at Wilf's if parking there.* Leaders Mike and Adele Walford 015395 52102