



FRIENDS OF LADY ANNE'S WAY E – Newsletter No. 17. Spring 2024

Welcome to our spring edition, here's looking forward to a lovely dry summer after a very wet winter!

News:- Unfortunately the LAW100 organised run which should have happened at the end of January had to be cancelled due to lack of entries. The organisers are hoping to re-introduce the run in 2025 as a 75 mile race along the route.

We were delighted to hear that the Inn at Brough has been taken over and will now be run by the Harker family. They tell us they are currently renovating it and will re-open under the new name of Wilding Hotel on 27th March. This is excellent news as accommodation in the Eden Valley has been sparse of late; we wish them lots of success in the future.

For those of you looking for a new home, how about Appleby Castle, on the market for a cool £9.5 million. The owner Sally Nightingale has transformed the Castle over the last 10 years into a hotel and three holiday lets and has also created a museum in the Norman keep. It's hoped that the new owners will carry on the business so that the general public will still have access to the property.



Settle will be hosting the Ride2stride walking festival from June 30th to July 6th. The event is packed with walks and talks and many of the local pubs will be hosting musical events.

Trail Taster walks will enable people to sample part of the many long distance walks which criss-cross the Dales and include The Ribble Way, Lady Anne's Way, The Pennine Way, Dales Highway and the Dales Way. For details check out their web site- <https://www.ride2stride.co.uk/>

We've been invited by Ann Sandell, Chairman of the Kirkby Stephen & District Welcomes Walkers Group, to join them on a walk on 27th July. This will be part of the Westmorland Dales Festival and will include part of the route of Lady Anne's Way, along the Highway and past the Watercut. There are several walks over the week-end, see the web site for more details.

<https://www.visiteden.co.uk/whats-on/march-2024/kirkby-stephen-and-district-walkers-are-welcome-walks-programme-spring-2024/>



Haylands pack-horse bridge. Lady Anne's Way crosses this historic bridge on the way to reach the centre of Hawes in Wensleydale.

Walkers on the Way:-

Robbie and Becky contacted me last June to say that they'd completed L. A. Way as part of a fundraising challenge. They managed to raise £1,270 for Reminiscence Hearing- which helps people with dementia and their carers and we congratulate them on their efforts.

On the same theme Donna contacted me for details of the guide book, as she wishes to do the walk over four days this year with some friends for charity. Some challenge!

In October last year Linda contacted me from Canada asking for information on the route to enable them to walk it this July. She wanted to know if it was easy to navigate and was it signposted throughout. Our American and Canadian friends are used to broad well marked tracks on their trails and often find it difficult to cope with our small fields and numerous stiles. Lady Anne's Way is well waymarked where the footpath leaves a metalled road, but route finding skills are needed particularly when walking over the moor tops.

Lastly I had an email from two French girls who wanted advice about the route and in particular the availability for camping along the Way. Even more important was the fact that they had two lovely dogs who would be accompanying them and wondered how they would fare in farmland.



Historical:-

Looking through out archive the other day I came across a clipping from the Westmorland Gazette dated 2015. Work had commenced on flood defences for St. Lawrence's Church, Appleby which had suffered badly several times over the years. To facilitate the work they had to open up the crypt where Lady Anne was buried as this had been badly affected as well. A new pipe has had to be inserted through the church wall which will lead to a new external sump pump to drain the water in the future.



Happy Walking – Sheila & Frank.