

LMC MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Volume 26 Issue 10 Oct 2022

Contact Details

Chairman: Rob Kell
Meets Co-ordinator: Bob Cumberland
Secretary [Temporary]: Rob Kell
Treasurer: Paul Ackroyd
Website: Rob Kell
Newsletter Editor: Sarah Bulling

LMC website address: <https://www.hillsandvalleys.co.uk/LMC/>

LMC email address: LMC@hillsandvalleys.co.uk

News & Notes

From the Committee . . .

From the Chairman

I would like to thank those who have spoken to me about committee roles & have offered their services. There are volunteers for both the Chair & the Membership Secretary to be proposed at the AGM. After excellent club service Bob has asked to step down as Meets Secretary at the AGM so we are in need of a volunteer. As before, please call or email me for a no-obligation chat.

Next Newsletter: Please send copy for the next issue by midday on the 10th of the month.

Meets & Events Programme

Date/s	Meet	Meet Leader	Comments
Sun 23 Oct	Chawton, Hampshire	Rob Kell	Day Walk
Sun 6 Nov	Wimbledon Common & Richmond Park	Alyson Lawton	Day Walk
2023			
Sat 14 Jan	AGM & Annual Dinner	Angela Leaman	
Sat 17-Sun 25 Jun	W Bay to S Haven Point	John Blight	SWCP Week 9

Your club needs volunteers to devise & lead walks Owing to the high cost & low availability of accommodation, we are putting more emphasis on Day Walks this year. If you haven't put your name down to organize one, please consider doing so. **Bob**

Meets Details

Sunday 23 October – Chawton, Hampshire – Rob Kell

I will lead a 18km (11m) circular walk from Chawton. This is just off the A31 south of Alton & is home to Jane Austen's House. There is a free car park in the village. The walk will start at 10:30am. Please bring a packed lunch. I can provide the route in advance if required.

Sunday 6 November – Wimbledon Common & Richmond Park – Alyson Lawton

Meet at 10:30 am at Wimbledon Park station. The route takes us over Wimbledon Common & then Richmond Park, ending at Richmond Station. It says it is 11km (7miles) but there is an option midway to catch buses if anyone wants to opt out.

Please let me know if you intend to come.

14th January 2023 - AGM & Annual Dinner / Marlborough – Angela Leaman

Thanks to everyone who has already contacted me. Numbers currently stand at 16: I will be making a provisional booking at the restaurant in the next couple of weeks. If you think you might be attending but have not been in touch, it would be helpful if you could drop me a line now. I recommend making a flex reservation at the Premier Inn, Marlborough for Saturday night, plus Friday if you prefer to arrive the evening before. The walk on Saturday will kick-off around 1030 - 11am & there will be another walk on Sunday morning.

Meet Report[s]

10-17 September – SWCP Week 8 / Brixham to West Bay – John Blight

We all arrived safely in the picturesque village of Beer on Saturday afternoon. Once we had negotiated our way around the neighbours from hell who thought we had no right to park anywhere near their houses, we settled into our spacious, well-appointed house for the week.

This week's walk was approx. 66 miles with 13215 feet of ascent spread over six days.



On Sunday we returned to Brixham (it only seemed like yesterday that we finished there in June) to start the walk. At about 14 miles this was the longest day with a challenging 750 metres of ascent. We also took a short train ride to avoid trudging through the back streets of Torquay. The first few days also involved some lengthy car drives as we had to get round Exeter. After day three, the drives got a lot easier once we were east of the River Exe so we were able to relax & enjoy the splendid scenery.



Tuesday was the only rainy day of the week. The rest of the time the weather was near perfect. The week passed far too quickly. All very relaxing! Even Buster thought so, nonchalantly folding his arms sitting in our lounge! I promise you, this photo was not rigged . . .



We've now only got 76 miles to go to finish this epic journey. The dates are already in the diary **June 17th – 25th next year**. Thanks to Sarah D, Rob & Alan for making it another memorable week.

Friday 30 September – Chichester Marina to Ford – Charles Harrison

This was an ideal walking day: dry & bright with the occasional Spitfire or Hurricane from nearby Goodwood Aerodrome livening up proceedings. In the event, a solo effort but I'll describe the route as there was a lot to see, including a few surprises (useful background was provided by regular information boards). If any LMC colleagues find themselves in the area, this would be a rewarding excursion.

History

The [Portsmouth & Arundel Canal](#) was opened in 1822. It ran from Salterns Lock to Ford. This was part of a secure inland route from London to the headquarters of the Royal Navy at Portsmouth. The first 2.5 miles (Salterns Lock to Hunston) was built to a wider gauge & allowed ships to reach Chichester via a 1.5 mile extension north (the Ship Canal). The canal from Hunston to Ford was abandoned in 1855; Salterns Lock to Chichester followed suit in 1928 but the [Chichester Ship Canal Trust](#) have been working on restoration since 1984.



The Chichester Canal by JMW Turner c1829 [Thanks to David Abbott for bringing this to my attention]

Route

From Salterns Lock the canal is still in water, home to numerous houseboats. We follow the marina access road until the A286 & once across take the towpath along to Hunston (where the canal becomes navigable). Crossing the B2145 we follow the pavement which becomes a



footpath through to the B2166. Proceed along the pavement with the canal to your left. The road kinks at a former canal bridge then a short distance further is the Walnut Tree public house. Go straight on then turn left into Marsh Lane then right at the fork (the canal entered a tunnel at this point). Proceed along past St Giles' Church (under the care of the Churches Conservation Trust) to reach the cottages at Manor Farm. There is a footpath on the right which takes you to the point the canal once emerged from the tunnel. Pictured on the left is the evidence that remains.

Turn left onto the footpath. This route follows the line of the canal all the way to Yapton. There are a number of market gardens along this stretch – [Colworth Farm](#) is one: their website shows what is grown. Just past Colworth Farm is a well preserved section of canal bank with vertical black pipes at regular intervals: I understand these are for monitoring methane.

Once over the A29, you join a road by the canal. This is the access road for [Lidsey Oilfield](#), operated by Angus Energy. Information on this & other oilfields in the Weald Basin is on their website.



After a short distance you cross the railway line to Bognor Regis (the sign shows the



location as 'canal'). The railway line originally passed over the canal but is now on the level. At Barnham Court Farm there is a reconstruction of a swing bridge over the canal. There were a number in this area. You will see much evidence on this next stretch.

Arriving in Yapton, you come to a canal bridge that has been preserved over the access road to a number of houses.

At the end of this road, turn left (into Canal Road) then right to reach the Co-op. Cross the road (where there are picnic tables if you have picked up a meal deal) to go diagonally right through a housing estate to reach a path marked on the map as 'old canal'. This path skirts the perimeter of the former [Ford Aerodrome](#), passing some historic hangars to reach Ford Road. A short way to the left is Lock Cottage & a path to [St Andrew's Church](#). The path follows the wall to the left of the church then over a field to a small marina where the canal joined the River Arun.

OS Maps Online (website: explore.osmaps.com or OS Maps App)

I have saved the route so it is visible online:-

Menu: Find Routes, Walk/Hike, All Routes – zoom in on Salterns Lock & click on the pin which should bring up ‘CHSalFor1’ then View details.

Next time . . .

Friday 7 to Sunday 9 October – Peak District – Andy & Kirsty Johns (for Paul Ackroyd)

Out Walking Reports and / or Photos . . .

Two beautifully contrasting images courtesy of Kirsty & Andy:



Evening view of Kerry mountains from Killarney viewpoint



View over Dingle Bay

Other Events / Items . . . *None this time*

Extra Elements: Books, DVDs, Films, other Walks / Climbs – views & comments . . .

If you've read any walking / mountaineering / travel books which you've enjoyed, please share.

National Trust Member' AGM Sat 5th November 2022

– Voting deadline for Council Elections & Resolutions Friday 28th October

Andy & I care deeply about the National Trust, as we often walk on their lands, visit their properties & follow their campaigns. If you also care about the future of this organisation, read on . . .

National Trust members will recently have received their AGM documents, with lists of candidates & resolutions for their AGM on 5th November. In case you haven't picked any of this up in the press, this has the potential to be a controversial occasion, with consequences for the future direction of the NT.

By way of background, there is a right-wing, 'anti-woke' organisation called "Restore Trust" which has been set up to counter the perceived increase in 'wokeness' of the NT. Restore Trust have put forward six new candidates for election & have proposed at least three resolutions in an effort to change the direction & policies of the NT. It believes that the NT is increasingly putting funds into 'modish & divisive ideologies'. They give examples of this (their words) as: negative & unscholarly emphasis on colonialism & slavery in its properties; wasting members' funds on supporting movements such as gay pride; & undertaking fashionable re-wilding projects rather than agriculture in NT farmlands. The NT has countered by claiming (their words) that the cultural directions & activities they support are inclusive rather than divisive; that they use the best expert & scientific evidence to support ecology, land management, cultural heritage & local communities; & that the preservation & conservation of their land & buildings remain core principles.

One could have sympathy with some accusations of over-wokeness within certain parts of the NT. On the other hand, Restore Trust seems to be made up of extreme right-wing characters, such as 'the leader of a Christian fundamentalist group who has lobbied against the criminalisation of marital rape' (quote from left-wing journal) who we personally would not want to see in charge here. It seems to us that there is middle, balanced way forward on many of the issues, but we personally have no clear idea how it might be achieved & who are the right people out of the 26 (26!) candidates nominated for election to the NT Council on 5th November . . . As you will see from the NT's AGM documents, the current NT Board of Trustees have endorsed six candidates & have recommended that members vote against the six resolutions.

This debate is relevant to you if, like us, care about the future direction of the NT. Now is the time to engage with all of this, read the documents & carry out your own research to come to your own conclusions – & then **submit your voting preferences for candidates & resolutions**. Any debate amongst LMC members about this is welcome & we would be interested in your views!

The deadline for voting, either online or by post, is Friday 28th October.

Kirsty & Andy

- Extra Elements to Sarah -

BMC: <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/> Newsletter at: <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/newsletters>

END