

Social Secretary's Report 2021 for AGM

Trying to maintain our social calendar in 2021, with the country in lockdown due to the Covid pandemic was, to say the least, rather challenging. Our traditional Christmas lunches, which usually kick off our calendar, had to be postponed as did the Christmas Carol walk, but I am pleased to say, that thanks to volunteers, all three lunches have been successfully rearranged for this year and Jennie Bordoli will advertise the Christmas Carol soon. Lorraine Tolley and Melanie Davy have also kindly agreed to lead 'Keith's Sherry Walk' on New Year's Day 2022.

The Social Calendar went 'online' for the first time for the first time in 2021! Thanks to Zoom we were able to offer a series of events which proved very popular with members. ECR volunteers offered to run sessions with Steve Hull starting the ball rolling with a popular 'Zoom Quiz'. That was followed with a Zoom session led by Marion Duff with a much needed focus on 'Wellness' and Duncan Learmond followed kindly with an excellent presentation about the history of the Macclesfield Canal. The zoom programme was supported by outside speakers too. Nicola Swinnerton provided members with a fascinating peek inside the life and work of a Public Rights of Way Officer and Cheshire Wildlife Trust explained how their work was safeguarding some of the wonderful landscape we all enjoy on our walks.

As the restrictions were lifted, and we got back to walking in groups, we were able to enjoy two history walks in September. A guided walk through Stockport, led by Judith Wilshaw, revealed just how much history the town has to share. It was a wonderful walk and Judith has kindly offered to do more walks in other settings in 2022. In September, Rodney Hughes led another of his excellent history walks in Wincle. We walked a Roman road, learned all about the textile industry along the River Dane and visited a ring of ancient standing stones, to name just a few of the highlights of his fascinating walk.

ECRs' 'Walking Weekend' programme was successfully reinstated in June with members enjoying a very enjoyable trip to Patterdale organised by Jane and Frank Gay. In September, Andy Davies and Melanie Davy organised an equally successful trip to Ambleside. These events take a great deal of time and commitment and I'd like to thank them all for their hard work in securing such successful weekend events.

October saw the return of Andy Davies' 'Curry Night'. Thank you to Andy and David Gylee for testing out the menu first.

Now that national restrictions have lifted 2022 should allow us to return to face to face events and coach trips, in addition to weekends away and themed walks. If members have ideas for events, or are willing to organise them, I love to hear from you.

Our social programme depends so much on the generosity of members who are prepared to give up their time to provide events for us all. I would like to thank them all, on behalf of all the members, for offering their time and enthusiasm to do so.