

November 1995

Prepare by Doreen & Justin McCarthy, Jane McCombie and Barbara Gray.

Area Chairman's Message

In welcoming the South Cheshire Group's first newsletter in the hope that it is the first of a long running series I have also to seek the assistance of South Cheshire members.

As predicted in last year's Area Annual Report a shortage of people willing to serve as officers and members of the Area Committee may well precipitate a crisis at the Area AGM in January. Steps have been and are being taken by discussion with Group Committees and by personal approach to members to fill the vacancies. Advice is also being sought from RA National Office. The RA is currently reviewing it's future aims and a good way of influencing these is by contributing to your Area Committee. Think about it.

Geoff Arnfield - Area Chairman

Group Chairman's Remarks

First let me add my voice to that of Geoff Arnfield in seeking to encourage our Group members to take an active part in the running of the Area.

The inaugural meeting of the Group was held on 20 October 1992. Membership in the Group's Territory was then 82, currently it stands at 185. This gives great satisfaction to our committee. There is, however, a downside. As we prepare our 5th, 6-monthly programme there are still too many members we have never seen at Group events. No doubt there are many good reasons, and not a few excuses but we need your active support. If the programme of walks does not attract you please let a committee member know, or come yourself to the next Programme Planning Meeting, perhaps prepared to lead your own event.

Brian Weld, Group Chairman

The Group, The Area, National.

Three years on it is time to let members know more of what goes on at Groups, Area and National levels. Organisationally South Cheshire Group along with Congleton and East Cheshire form the South and East Cheshire Area. The rest of Cheshire is covered by North and Mid Cheshire Area (3 Groups) and the Cestrian (i.e. Chester) Group of the Merseyside and West Cheshire Area.

Area Councils are the link between individual members, Groups and National Executive (and staff). Locally in order to present to the Cheshire County Council in their Rights of Way Unit an agreed 'front' on footpath policy there exists a Cheshire County Co-ordinating Committee (CCCC) with representation from the three areas and effectively the Groups.

Part of the South and East Cheshire Area, together with parts of six other areas are within the Peak District National park. Again to present a united 'front' on planning, rights of way and particularly 'access' matters there is a Peak District Co-ordinating Committee (PPCC) which usually meets 6 monthly. Together with other organisations with similar interest it has an annual meeting with Members and Officers of the Peak Park Joint Planning Board. Members of your Committee play a proportionate part in the working of these committees in addition to their roles in running your Group.

Many planning applications affect Rights of Way, either directly or by their effect on the wider environment. Peter Callery our Environment Secretary looks after these matters for us, he would welcome assistance particularly from members with relevant expertise.

John McCombie produces the walks programme. This depends on leaders. If you feel you would like to lead a walk but also feel a bit unsure about it just contact him. He has literature on leading (see below) and could arrange to introduce you to an experienced leader. Also you could consider leading jointly with a friend. John would welcome ideas on the type of walks which members would like to see on the programme.

Library

John McCombie holds a small library of maps and walks books, also the RA "Leadership and Navigation Manual". These are available for loan. Justin McCarthy is willing to lend his collection of maps for use on Group activities. If other members have 'walking' maps they would loan to members please let John or Justin know.

Walker's Holidays

As secretary Doreen McCarthy receives many brochures on organised walking holidays and accommodation. The areas below are covered:-

England

Coast to Coast	Somerset
Devon	Sussex
Lake District	Swaledale
Offa's Dyke	Wye Valley
Peak District	Yorkshire Dales
Shropshire	

Scotland

Argyll	Loch Ness
Arran	West Highland Way

Wales

Bala	Llandudno
Barmouth	Llanelli
Cambrian Way	Montgomery
Gower	Offa's Dyke
Pembrokeshire	

Europe

Brittany	Ireland
France	Pyrenees
Germany	Spain
Italy	Switzerland
Tenerife	

Far East

Himalayas	America
	Canada
	South America

Doreen McCarthy will give you further details.

New Year Dinner

Tuesday 30th January 1996 at 1830 at the

Restaurant at South Cheshire College, Danebank Avenue, Crewe.

Menu: Champignons a L'ail, Supreme de Saumon Veronique, Supreme de Volaille Farcie a la Creme (or Cotelette des Noisettes for vegetarians), sweet, coffee and petits fours.

Price: £9.50 per person.

Please send payment (cheques payable to 'The Ramblers South Cheshire Group' to Jane McCombie by **14 January 1996**.

Area AGM

Saturday 13 January 1996. 1030 Mottram St Andrew Village Hall (Grid Reference) followed by a short walk.

Bring sandwiches, hot drinks provided. Please make a special effort to give the Group a good representation at this important occasion.

First Aid

Ferry Broomhall, Commandant of Haslington Red Cross, has agreed to run a course on First Aid for Ramblers. This will be a shortened course with no fee though a donation to the Red Cross will be welcome. Number are limited to 12. The date is not yet agreed. Contact Secretary for details.