

Sadly we have to report the recent deaths of 2 members.
Ken Willington - our President - died on 9th June aged 87

&

Geoff Vaughan - died on 12th June aged 80

Both Funerals were well attended by members, former members & friends.
Barbara, Geoff's widow wishes to thank all those attended the funeral, sent cards, condolences, messages and conversations regarding Geoff.



KEN WILLINGTON



TRIBUTE TO KEN BY MARILYN NORBURY AT KEN'S FUNERAL ON 18TH JUNE 2014

As the current Chairman of Crewe and Nantwich Rambling Club, it is a privilege to be able to share with you a few memories of Ken, who was our President and one of only two surviving founder members of the club, which was formed in 1946.

I have been a member of the club since 1971 when my husband and I came to live in Crewe. Joining the club put us instantly into a new circle of friends, Ken being one of them and that friendship remained constant. Ken was never on the committee and he never led a walk but he has always been there supporting everything he could and adding his wry humour to every situation as well as on many occasions, his extreme generosity. Only recently he questioned whether he should still be President – 'Isn't there anyone better' he asked – he was assured there wasn't so settled back to reminisce for a while and his memories were very accurate even if names had become a little difficult to relate to. He could remember his long time friend Brian Winstanley. Both Ken and Brian used to take a tin of fruit on a walk – and a tin opener! They found the fruit refreshing but one day Ken noticed that Brian had a tin of peas. When questioned about the peas Brian declared they were 'cheaper than strawberries' that Ken was then enjoying!

Another occasion worth recounting was connected with a pair of Ken's trousers. He was known for walking in shorts but always being prepared he carried long trousers in case the weather took a turn for the worse. We are a wicked lot and one day when we had stopped for coffee and his rucksack was open to stealthy hands, the trousers were removed and swiftly taken ahead of the group and placed over a gate some distance away – you can imagine his puzzled amusement when he realised those trousers on the gate causing much interest were actually his!!

As President he came along to committee meetings right up to the end of last year when it was obvious spending an evening in such a formal situation was not the best for him and it overcame the problem of the meeting having to come to a conclusion in time for him to be returned home to take his rice pudding out of the oven! Sometimes he'd phone Eddy, his neighbour to rescue what was possibly his top food delight.

I was lucky to have seen Ken fairly recently when I enjoyed his company at 'The Afternoon Tea' held at Sunset Cottage – he managed to eat a little food but was straight into the mint toffees that he won in the raffle without any hesitation.

I also met up with Ken often in his tennis playing days and there were occasions when he accompanied me to a dance. We were amongst many who enjoyed rambling club holidays and on one in Swaledale he was waiting to use the shower from which I emerged – I told him he was my tennis partner, dance partner and shower partner and it always made him smile.

Ken also came into my life in my role as a Scout Leader, when he came along with the Kynaston family to the 3rd SWC Scout Group, again bringing with him humour and generosity.

Today is a sad day but our dear friend is at peace and happy now, we shall miss his presence but remember him for all the fun and good times we had together.

Items from recent Committee Meeting

Club History - Keep sending in 'old' photos to Kath Conroy if you have any.

Post Ramble Meal - the next one will be in the Spring of 2015. Venue will be known once the Winter/Spring Walk Board is completed.

Walk information

Summer/Autumn 2014 Walk Programme - Programme almost complete, 2 leaders still required for this programme see below - please contact the Ramble organisers ASAP to fill the gaps.

12TH OCTOBER

DISLEY, GTR MANCHESTER

B

26TH DECEMBER

BOXING DAY RAMBLE LEADER REQUIRED

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Winter/Spring 2015 Walk Programme - The board for this will start circulation on the coach walk to Holmfirth. This will also include the Evening walks.

Potential new walk leaders can contact the Ramble Organisers for help and all walk leaders should read the Guidelines available on the Club Web Site www.creweandnantwichramblingclub.org.uk/walkplanning.htm.