



# OXFORD FIELDPATHS SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

Issue 17: September 2011

### From the Chairman

From a glorious spring to a more indifferent summer, however inclement weather never stops an OFS member, be they surveying or just walking (as you read on you see how true that statement is). Ensuring the footpaths of Oxfordshire remained open to all was one of the founding fathers aims when the Society was established in 1926, and I am very pleased that we are still making an active contribution to this.

Re-reading last year's newsletter I realized that this was when we started to ask for volunteers to assist in path maintenance, and, with Peter Ewart's and John Eyre's determination this has become a reality – the d'Arcy Dalton Way surveyed from north to south and problems notified to the County Council. So from small beginnings we have achieved a great deal, surveying and light clearance are skills we have learnt.

However there is still plenty to do and we should not rest on our laurels as it is likely that the current financial constraints will mean that the County Council is likely to have less money for path clearance, and so societies like ours, the Ramblers, Chiltern Society and the Cotswold Wardens all have the capacity to make an active contribution to keeping the footpaths open to all.

We have donated money to both the Chiltern Society and the Cotswold Wardens, who both have working parties with the knowledge and physical ability to install gates, and this seems to me to be the best way that collectively we can contribute to making the footpaths easily accessible not only to us keen walkers but the public as a whole. After all walking is an excellent form of exercise, costs nothing and re-engages us with nature which is so important.

### OFS Volunteers Progress

When Liz Adams took over the chairmanship of our committee one of her aims was that OFS should make a contribution to the improvement of the footpaths that we are lucky enough to enjoy. As a first step and to re-establish our links with the County Council Countryside Department, Peter Ewart put into the walking programme two working parties on the d'Arcy Dalton Way, one in early October 2010 and the second at the end of February 2011. These were to be exploratory missions in order to establish what work was needed, what we could manage to do and how we could feed back our findings to the County Council.

#### A broken stile near Radcote



Photo: Peter Ewart

Tackling the first 7.5 mile section revealed our lack of experience, and clearly we were at the bottom of a steep learning curve, with another 57 miles of the d'Arcy Dalton Way still to be walked!

John Eyre established an effective working relationship with the Chiltern Society, who very kindly advised us how their work parties were organized and several of us joined their light clearance working party to gain firsthand experience. With their mentoring we learned the value to be gained from a detailed survey before any clearance work is tackled.

This has allowed us to plan the works we can do and identify those which we can't. These will be passed on to OCC and high on this list will be any safety related issues that we may find, such as the many horrible stiles and unsafe bridges.

## A defective bridge



Photo: Peter Ewart

It was clear after our first work party effort that although this was successfully completed, the 57 miles that remained could not be tackled in such a piecemeal fashion, even so a report was made to OCC and most of these problems have been resolved. The Volunteer Sub-Committee decided to identify members who might be asked to become Rights of Way Improvement Volunteers, and fortunately some accepted the challenge. I am sorry if we missed trying to press-gang you, it is not too late and your Society needs you! So please contact anyone on the committee to rectify our error!

At the committee meeting in December 2010 Peter tabled a letter received from OCC thanking OFS for their efforts for the first work party and our report. He also reported on the Rights of Way Monitoring Group (RWMG) meeting which met in November. Following this Liz took a brave (unilateral) decision that the team of volunteers would tackle a comprehensive survey of the whole of the remaining length of the d'Arcy Dalton Way with the aim of presenting a report to the OCC by the end of March 2011.

The route was divided into 12 sections of between 5 & 7 miles in length, generally starting and finishing at a village. The key to this was the greatly enlarged "Tracklog" maps of each stage. Small teams then surveyed a particular section using this map upon which they carefully recorded the relevant information using a common template. This included the grid reference of all stiles, gates and bridges noting their condition using a standard format. The whole survey was completed on time!!!! A hearty well-done is due to all our survey teams.

Peter was able to report this achievement at the next RWMG meeting held in April after which a format for the submission of our survey was agreed with Hugh Potter, Senior Field Officer of the Countryside Service. This was to be in three parts: small scale Tracklogs section maps showing the problems in each section and an overall summary highlighting the safety and the other issues needing more immediate attention.

Whilst the d'Arcy Dalton way was in fact in good condition overall, we did report that a high proportion of stiles (27 out of 90) were not acceptable. The

Society has already funded the replacement of 5 of these with kissing gates, between Hook Norton and Epwell. In contrast out of 27 bridges only 3 require maintenance work.

Many freestanding way mark posts were damaged, some have succumbed to rot or impact damage and are in need of replacement. There are a significant number of finger post problems and way marking in some villages is deficient. All of these points have been passed on to OCC for their attention.

## Defective way marks



Photo: Liz Adams

In early June Peter and Jim Parke met Hugh Potter in order to hand over OFS's findings and it is pleasing to report that he was very complimentary about the scale and quality of the work carried out by the OFS survey teams. As a result, we will be working with his department to produce more surveys and to undertake any light clearance work that may be needed this season, so watch this space for request for more volunteers.

## The Way Ahead

1. Complete the dDW way marking by mid September 2011.
2. Survey teams to monitor progress made on the items raised with OCC, whilst the way marking is being undertaken. This information will be reported to the ROWMG meeting in October 2011.
3. Survey teams will re-walk sections of the dDW by the end of March 2012 reporting any further progress made and noting any condition problems that may have arisen. These findings will be reported to the ROWMG meeting to be held in April 2012.
4. To commence full surveys of the 8 circular walks that accompany the dDW route described in Nick Moon's book in the summer of 2012.

Peter Ewart and James Parke

## Residential Visit to Hope Cove, Devon

28<sup>th</sup> September – 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2010

Tilley Smith and Alison Broadbridge had visited Hope Cove with the Henley and Goring Ramblers last year, and as they are both members of OFS, they offered to arrange this walking holiday. Tilley led the walks very ably and Alison looked after the administration and the social side of things.

On a bright sunny day at the end of September twenty four of us arrived at the Cottage Hotel. This large hotel sits just above the shoreline at Inner Hope Cove. Hope Cove consists of two coves divided by a small promontory: the one on the left, a pretty small sandy harbour and the cove to the right dramatic with wonderful rock formations. Steep steps led directly onto cliff top walks. Tilley and Alison introduced themselves and after a very good cream tea we met outside the hotel and set off on our first walk. This was inland to Galmpton Church across fields, returning cross country to Hope Cove and the beaches.

There was one walk each day, but cleverly arranged so there were alternatives taking into account all abilities. On our first full day we met in full waterproof gear to walk the eight miles to Salcombe, via Bolt Head and Soar Mill Cove: a challenging and scenic cliff top walk. At lunchtime and a couple of miles from Salcombe we had three choices: to visit the Nation Trust property Overbecks, to take the sea tractor to take the small ferry to Salcombe or to continue the walk into Salcombe. At about one o'clock the sun had come out and we soon divested of our rain gear. By 3pm we had all arrived in Salcombe and most of us could be found soaking up the sunshine in one of the many picturesque hostelries before returning by taxi to our hotel.

Every evening we gathered in a private room where Tilley explained what was in store for our next day's walk and to hear what social activity was available that night. This included quizzes, excellent local entertainment and beetle drives. We proceeded to the bar and onwards to the dining room, where we enjoyed a magnificent five course meal with much chat and hilarity.

Day two found us car sharing the short distance to Bigbury on Sea where there was an opportunity to visit and explore Burgh Island, of Agatha Christie and Noel Coward fame, either by walking across the causeway or by taking the unique sea tractor.

### View to Burgh Island



Photo: Liz Adams

This way we would not get our feet wet! After lunch most people took a six mile walk, largely inland through woods and charming South Devon thatched villages. However a few of us did our own thing. Brenda and I spent three hours in wonderful warm sunshine, walking along the picturesque beach to the estuary. Others visited the Start Point Lighthouse. Before our evening meal five of us actually swam in the sea!

### On Burgh Island



Photo: Liz Adams

On day three we took the easy walking coastal path via Bantham Beach. This provided us with outstanding sea views of flora and fauna. Unfortunately it rained heavily all day but we were not deterred. At lunchtime we had the option of returning to the hotel via the village of Thurleston, going across country and the coastal path, led by Sue Crisp. Others decided to return the way they had come, but the 'hardy' few went on the challenge with Tilley and Alison. We certainly all appreciated the hot baths, showers and good food on arriving back at the hotel.

All too soon it was our last walk to Inner Hope Cove thatched village via Bolberry Down, returning on the coastal path round Bolt Tail. I think everyone will agree that this was a wonderful varied walking holiday with excellent company. Thank you Tilley, Alison and Sue for making it all possible. We do appreciate all the hard work and planning that goes into making these holidays so successful.

Sheila Carmichael

### Handy Hints for Walkers

For those worried about their legal rights when walking, this was passed on by Vaughan Haskins

Words of comfort from the Country Column of the Chipping Norton newsletter (date unknown)

"I have been trying to interpret the law regarding bulls running on fields with rights of way across. It would appear that the bull's owner can't be prosecuted the first time his animal kills but he is held responsible if it should happen a second time. This should give assurance to walkers worried about their safety."

## Skittles 2011

The annual skittles evening was held in April at Sturdy's Castle. The event was well attended and organized most efficiently by Lew and Pat Gammon.

Skittles is the perfect social event to bring the able and less able walkers together for an evening of reminiscences and enjoyment. There was some serious 'bowling' as the teams vied with one another to gain supremacy over the team led by Brian Colley. Brian and his trusty bowlers have won the challenge plate more times than any other team.

The arrival of food gave an opportunity to quieten down. The food was plentiful with a wide choice of main and pudding. This year we did manage to keep the cream off the walls and on the plate where it should be. We noticed that some pictures had been repositioned should a similar mishap occur.

Brian's team was the eventual victor after a close run final match. The 'OFS Plate' is again in Brian's custody for another year.

Once again we thank Lew and Pat for a splendid evening of fun and at times high drama. After ten years of organizing the evening they have decided to retire from task, so a special thank you from all of us who have enjoyed the evenings over the years.

John Eyre

## The Oxfordshire Way: The northern section: Bourton-on-the-Water to Islip, 33.9 miles

28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Day1. It had been raining during the night and it was still raining first thing that morning. Liz Adams and Emerita Pilgrim had organized the car shuffling like a military operation and we were parked in Bourton-on-the-Water ready to start our walk by 10am. By now it had stopped raining, although from time to time it was extremely windy.

Setting out



Photo: Eme Pilgrim

We set off at a brisk pace, all 16 walkers, and soon passed through Wyck Rissington, a very pretty unspoilt village then through Gawcombe and on to Bledington. We were walking through idyllic meadows of wild flowers, including exquisite orchids, and, climbing steadily, we were greeted by panoramic views at the top. We had a short coffee

break where Judith and I found a convenient tree trunk on which to sit; Trudi joined us but promptly moved as she had sat next to a very active wasps' nest.

And we were off again. We passed through woods and wheat fields and some road walking. We went via Bruern and on to Shipton-under-Wychwood. We'd accomplished about 8 miles when we stopped for lunch at about 1pm. We sat just outside a wood with fine drizzle coming down but this certainly didn't dampen our spirits. We set off again and were still keeping up a good pace, this was certainly helped by the fact there were no stiles. We arrived back at our cars in Ascott-under-Wychwood at 3pm.

Day 2. The day started dry and bright and once again Liz and Eme had the car shuffling organized and we started walking from Ascott-under-Wychwood at 9.40am. Today there were 13 of us and again we went at a good pace.

We were looking down onto the Evenlode valley and walking through vast fields of wheat, broad beans and bamboo which are used for bio fuel. We saw a hare run into a corn field and the pastures were full of ragged robin, ox eye daisies and buttercups. We marched through the beautiful Cotswold stone village of Charlbury and more huge fields of crops until we came to some very stony fields which heralded our arrival at Stonesfield. Here we stopped for lunch by the river Evenlode.

Lunch at Stonesfield



Photo: Kazie Wischnewski

We sat watching people paddling in the river and a family throwing in jars and catching crayfish. Setting off again, we followed the route of Akeman Street which took us through Blenheim Park. We crossed the A44 and were back at our cars at approximately 3pm again.

Day 3. Again the car shuffling was expertly planned and we set off from Wootton at 9.30am with 13 walkers. The rain started and it rained and it kept on raining. We were continuing to walk along Akeman Street; Margaret, Adam and David had brought along secateurs to clear obstructing branches.

The terrain was much flatter than the first two days. We had a short break, taking shelter from the persistent rain under a railway bridge. We walked through sodden jungles of rapeseed and more, even soggy, wheat fields. We turned off Akeman Street

and on past Pigeon Lock, through Kirtlington and into Kirtlington Park.

We had a lot of extremely slippery stiles to climb but everyone was cheerful despite the downpour. We eventually arrived at Weston-on-the-Green for lunch in the churchyard with people huddling in the church porch or sitting on grave stones under dripping trees.

After lunch we plodded on over the A34, with its traffic backed up to the M40 junction, and through hay fields battered down by the weather. We were now onto Otmoor and after tramping through water-logged wheat and rapeseed fields, gaining height and weight from the amount of mud clinging to our boots! We arrived back at Islip car park at about 3pm, bedraggled, soaked but still smiling.

Before the pub



Photo: Kazie Wischniewski

We went to the Red Lion where Eme wanted to buy the drinks with Liz, but Michael insisted that he should and we sat in the conservatory with the rain falling even heavier. We all agreed that it had been a great three days walking and three cheers to Liz and Eme for organizing it. We are looking forward to doing the second half of the Oxfordshire Way whatever the weather.

Val Forsdyke

## Annual Outing

4<sup>th</sup> September 2010

Time for the annual outing once again, and what a great day out it was. Brilliantly organized by Liz Adams, like a military operation. Thirty two intrepid walkers set out at 8.30am sharp heading for the Malvern Hills and Worcester. Once again we were blessed with a beautiful sunny day, proving that the sun doesn't only shine on the righteous!

The morning 5 mile walk up into the Malvern Hills presented us with stunning scenery over the surrounding countryside, in whichever direction we looked and cameras were clicking faster than Japanese tourists. This was especially so when we reached the Worcestershire Beacon at 425m.

After water stops and well thought out toilet stops we continued on to our much longed for lunch break at the Malvern Hills Hotel, where a dining room had been prepared specifically for us (once again

showing the efficiency of our organizer). The food and service was excellent and enjoyed by all.

Worcestershire Beacon



Photo: Tony Simmons

From here we coached into Worcester where we had about two hours to either do a 21/2 mile walk following the City and River Severn Trail (map provided courtesy of Liz) or do a spot of sightseeing at our own pace. The majority of us finished up having a well deserved cup of tea (and cake) in the Cathedral Cafe Shop or a refreshing ice cream by the riverside.

Sadly it was then 5pm and time to get back on the coach and head for home, wondering where next year's outing will take us and hoping it will be half as good as this one.

Tony Simmons.

## The Oxford Fieldpath Volunteer

(after and with apologies to A.E. Houseman with may be a bit of Wordsworth thrown in)

*I come from the haunt of overgrown paths;  
decrepit stiles with steps set high; missing rails,  
barbed wire lurking ready to snare unwary  
walker.*

*Waymarks lost to view add to the miles of paths  
made difficult by wobbling stiles that delay our  
days and require all our wiles to complete the  
miles.*

*Such difficult ways hide the wire or thorns that  
cut the flesh and snag the Gortex, raising  
warning cries or tears to the walker's eyes.*

*To mend such woes I join with others to improve  
these rights of way with easy swinging gates,  
sturdy stiles and waymarks made clear.*

*Waymarks new will ease the way so that I may  
raise my eyes to see afresh the wide open skies  
over and the wild flowers blooming fresh below.*

*These simple wishes I share with others to open  
ways for all to see the secret Oxfordshire  
countryside new.*

*Circular walks made new would provide easy  
access and solace fresh from our worldly woes.*

Peter Ewart

## Footpath News and Railway Lines

The Public Inquiry into the proposed Chiltern Railways upgrade ended in February. We now await the result; there is a chance that we will get Oddington FP6 on its current line (rather than sent a mile out of the way) and possibly Mansmoor Lane on or near its current route. In the meantime we have the delights of HS2, which will pass through Godington, Newton Purcell, Finmere, and Mixbury possibly affecting eight rights of way.

### Splash (no longer, perhaps)

The project to improve the paths in the Cherwell flood plain is nearing completion, with only FP3 having obstructions remaining. The old bridge with missing planks at the southern end of the Wolfson riverside path (FP16) has been replaced with a walkway and most of the stiles have been replaced with gates.

The new bridge about 100 yards north of the walkway bears a ceramic plaque inscribed "Polly's Bridge"; I have been unable to find out who Polly is. The work on the collapsed sections of Thames Towpath has now been completed at a cost of £1.7 million with funding from various sources including landfill tax.

### The Marston Walkway



Photo: Adam

### Major Development

The proposed wind turbine at Horspath has been stymied by the Ministry of Defence and the Great Abingdon Megareservoir has been blown out of the water by the Inspector's report on the public inquiry. This report was extremely scathing, and told Thames Water to think again on all counts.

A proposed extension of Carterton threatens the only footpath in the area; I have suggested that it is retained in open space. Also, a proposed extension of Witney to the west will lead to the minor diversion of a bridleway to a new roundabout at Downs Road.

The MoD proposes to build 1900 houses on land at Graven Hill, Bicester, and then sell the site. Another site near Piddington would be sold for warehousing. The plan for the Graven Hill site seems to involve reopening the path along the approximate line of the Roman road. The remaining paths in the area, closed in 1958, all cross land to be retained as barracks or military railway.

## Other Matters

The public inquiry into the proposed diversion at Bodicote Mill will be on September 27-28. Preparing the case will involve Inclosure Awards and other ancient documents, possibly including Domesday Book.

The County Council has put into abeyance the diversion application on Sydenham BR7 pending solution of the many problems on the owner's land. Since then 20 of the 28 problems have been resolved.

The obstructions to Highmoor FP5 have now been completely cleared. The owner has applied for a diversion.

The diversions at Cottisford FP8/9 and Benson FP6 have now come into effect.

A proposed diversion of Enstone FP15 looks harmless, but the owner has put yellow blobs that look like waymarks on a number of gates where the path isn't. The County Council is aware of this problem.

A proposed diversion at Shrivenham starts at a gate which is rusted shut, and the proposed route is now occupied by substantial trees.

David Godfrey

## Contrasting winter walks

### OFS at HENLEY!!

A very disappointing turnout for this new venue. Sue, Matthew, Dave and Eileen Mace were the only members who turned up for this glorious day at Henley on January 27<sup>th</sup> 2011. It would have only taken a little effort to support this venue, as there were plenty of car parking spaces. Or maybe because it was not Henley on Thames but Henley Beach, Adelaide, Australia that put you off – Ha ha!

Henley, Australia



Photo: Eileen Mace

While you were all out enjoying yourselves making snowmen, we were struggling along the beach in hot sunshine and having to put more suntan lotion on – what a drag – and then having to force a cold beer or gin and tonic down us. It was all hard work. If you want more information on this venue don't hesitate to contact me, I'll be pleased to tell you all about it.

Eileen Mace

## MINCE PIES and MULLED WINE

In contrast to the walk above, the pre-Christmas mulled wine and mince pie walk was walked in a snowstorm. Having made the start point in a gentle snow fall, the situation rapidly changed and two of the seven intrepid walkers turned back after about half an hour and had a treacherous journey back to Oxford and Abingdon. The remaining five ploughed on, literally, as paths became obscured by the falling snow. At the Combe steps we stopped for mince pies and mulled wine – there was plenty left over as the leader was expecting more walkers and the leader was bringing mince pies, but not mulled wine, for the coffee break on walks till Easter!

### Combe Steps



Photo: Liz Adams

The walk through the Blenheim estate was magical, not a footprint to be seen and the trees covered with snow, if we lost our footing it was a soft landing. As we approached the Wootton door, local residents were starting to come into the grounds with sledges, despite the notices, children were determined to make the most of this early Christmas present. A slightly hazardous trip home through Woodstock and back to Oxford, but a walk I would not have missed for anything, having spent so many years in Australia where mulled wine and mince pies are so inappropriate.

Liz Adams

## Yorkshire Weekend

29<sup>th</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> August 2011

Ten members of OFS made their various ways to Skipton for a Ramblers Holiday weekend of walking in the Yorkshire Dales. We were staying at the Rendezvous Hotel just 1 mile south of Skipton on the Keighley road. The rooms were spacious and well equipped. The Leeds/Liverpool canal passes close to the hotel restaurant so on arrival some of us set off along the canal towpath to walk into Skipton. We had to hurry back for a meeting with our RH Leader, Ray, who briefed us on arrangements and details of the walk for Saturday then introduced us to the other seven walkers on this weekend.

## Burnsall Bridge



Photo: Gwyneth Tyson

We set off in a minibus at 9.30 am to drive to Grassington from where we started our circular walk in Wharfedale. We crossed the river by Linton Falls then visited the church before entering the village for a 'coffee' stop on the village green. We carried on down Wharfedale, over many stone stiles, to the lovely village of Burnsall where we ate our lunch on the river bank, quite crowded on a warm Saturday. The afternoon stretch took us higher up the fells, through an area of ancient mines, as we headed back to Grassington.

### Enjoying an ice cream



Photo: Gwyneth Tyson

The walk on Sunday was done at a higher level on the fells starting from Arncliffe Cote, climbing up and heading south west to Malham Tarn where we had our lunch break. This was very different from Saturday in much more open and rugged territory with a steep descent as we headed back to our starting point.

Despite the slightly longer journey this was a very good weekend, beautiful weather, good food, pleasant company and not too expensive. It involved much less work for the OFS organiser with all the walks planned and led by a qualified RH leader. Those who hadn't visited Yorkshire before had the opportunity to make a quick visit to places such as Bolton Abbey, Skipton Castle, Saltaire and the Bronte Parsonage, to name just a few.

Gwyneth Tyson

## Residential Trip to Dovedale,

18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2011

The spring 'OFS away trip' this year was a new venture, to stay at an HF house and have guided walks from the company's leaders, rather than in previous years asking for volunteer leaders from within the OFS membership. So in mid April in glorious weather seventeen of us arrived at Newton House on the busy road between Ashbourne and Buxton for three full days of walking in Dovedale. Our introduction to the leaders and other walkers, and the ethos of HF was made over an excellent cream tea, and then as a taster for the days ahead we had a gentle amble along the Tissington Trail which was literally on the back doorstep to work up an appetite for dinner. Each evening we were offered three choices of walks for the following day: easier, medium and harder, easier by HF standards around 7 miles with about 600 feet of ascent.

I selected the medium option each day, around 10 miles, and so walked with all of the three leaders who had superb knowledge of the history, geology, flora and fauna of the area and I can now spot the difference between wild garlic and three sided leek – feel the stems of the flowers, round for the former and the latter's name explains itself! The leaders also provided us with gentle entertainment each evening, a quiz to see how much we had listened to information given on the walks, darts and dominoes and, on the final evening, impromptu country dancing. The first day we walked from the house over fields, with HF sponsored stiles, towards Wolfscote Dale, with wonderful views and then descending into Milldale, with an ancient packhorse bridge across the river Dove, described by Izaak Walton in his book 'The Compleat Angler'. We then walked along the river Dove to Wolfscote Dale before returning on the Tissington Trail.

Day two was a walk from Wootton above the Manifold valley with wonderful views, then descending through fields to the river and into the park at Ilam.

### Wolfscote Dale



Photo: Liz Adams

We lunched in the grounds of Ilam and then made our way past the Izaak Walton Hotel and along Dovedale, with its magical names describing the limestone rock formations: Thorpe Cloud, Jacob's Ladder, Shepherd's Abbey, Reynard's Caves and Lovers Leap. The length of the Dale was bustling with families enjoying the spring sunshine and children paddling in the water. We returned to Newton House via Milldale.

The third day was a walk from Froggatt Edge, a gritstone escarpment, along Curbar Edge with wonderful views and then dropping down to the lush Chatsworth Estate, again lots of people enjoying the estate grounds and groups of Duke of Edinburgh award school parties navigating their way, more or less successfully, ordinance survey maps in hand. After lunch break, on through the estate past Edensor (the village moved by a previous Duke because it spoils the view) in very hot conditions and onto Bakewell for a very welcome cup of tea before being picked up by the coach to take us back to the hotel.

### Looking down into the Manifold Valley



Photo: Liz Adams

In summary it was an unqualified success, for me it was lovely to see Sue Crisp thoroughly enjoying being one of the walkers rather than the organizer, but thank you Sue for trialing HF and giving us all such a brilliant few days away, I am sure I speak for all of us. I would love to go back to the area and explore a bit more, particularly in spring, it is such a verdant area, and judging by the numbers of twin and triplet lambs we saw, very productive for sheep.

Liz Adams

### Committee News

The committee would like to thank Adam for updating the website, adding new information which will continue to be added to. We welcome Margaret Jones who was elected to the committee at the AGM. The Editor would like to thank all those who contributed to the Newsletter and Adam for setting it out in its final form.