

National LAF Conference (North) 1st March 2016, Leeds

Nottinghamshire guided walks partnership

Brian Cluff and Mary Mills, Nottinghamshire Local Access Forum

Notes

Presentation by Brian Cluff (who designed the booklet and handles publicity) and Mary Mills, Chair of the LAF (and who does lots of the typing).

NGWP has created the programme of walks since 2008, when Nottinghamshire County Council stopped the work. About 5-7000 copies are printed and distributed every year, and the walks are also available through the website <http://www.nottsguidedwalks.co.uk/>.

The objectives of the Partnership are to:

- Introduce country walking to more people
- Assist walking groups to recruit new members
- Publicise Walking for Health

Production of the programme, booklet and website

This requires a small group of people, preferably with a walking background, skills needed are: a link to printing, website expertise, ability to type (typing up the walk information is currently a significant part of the job), publicity. It is also useful to have someone who can handle finances. A group of 3-4 people with the right skills would be suitable.

Funding – the NGWP get a grant from the Big Lottery small grants programme (which provides grants of up to 10K pa). They also get income from advertising, other small grants and donations from walkers. Big will consider similar applications from other similar groups elsewhere. Big will want feedback about the success of the project. NGWP sampled 25% of the walks and found that 3 out of 10 had new walkers.

Distribution – NGWP use Nottinghamshire's county and city library service and GP surgeries.

About the walks – Each walk is led by a qualified leader and is covered by the public liability insurance of their own organisation. For Health Walks it is considered good practice to include information about who each walk is suitable for in terms of physical abilities.

If you are interested in setting up your own Guided Walks Partnership then NGWP can help further as they have developed a starter pack. Contact details are available on their website.