

# ESSEX AREA UPDATE



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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE RAMBLERS'  
ASSOCIATION — ESSEX AREA

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## ESSEX HUNDRED – 2006 UPDATE

*Jim Woodcock reports on the continued success of an annual Essex Area Event*

**G**reetings from the Essex Area Walks Working Party

For those of you who joined us on this year's Hundred, our grateful thanks and, into the bargain, you enjoyed good walks, pleasant countryside, great company and cheerful lunchtimes spent at village inns and pubs. For those who didn't, you missed out on some great walks, Day by Day! True, attendances were down on last year, ranging from just 15 on Day 1 to top 35 on Day 7 - disappointing, considering our 6000 plus membership across the County. However, over the course of all nine days, total appearances reached just short of 200 with 5 people completing the whole route.

The weather was kind to us again this year with just some light rain to start us off. Generally, the condition of the PROW Network was surprisingly good with just some tricky ploughed fields to negotiate but this was much less than feared

judging by the advance of the harvest as seen on the walk outs during July and August. Liaison with Essex County Council Highways Department was exceptional with a dedicated member of staff allocated to the Hundred to oversee all the faults uncovered on the walk outs. Many repairs and improvements were to be seen across each day of the Hundred and we even encountered an ECC Working Party cheerfully installing a new fingerpost at Fairstead on Day 3.

It is evident that the Hundred still serves its extremely useful purpose in restoring the PROW Network by gaining new waymarks, fingerposts, bridges and stiles across one hundred miles of public paths. That's 2100 miles to date since 1986 criss-crossing our fair County. Sadly, the danger of walking within an arable landscape brings constant problems of a 'growing' nature!

Our gratitude goes to all the leaders who enthusiastically walked out their routes, often two and three times before the big day, spending time seeking out improvements and

solutions to difficulties encountered and even partaking in impromptu footpath clearances.

As anticipated, this year we reintroduced the detailed itinerary and historical notes relating to places visited along the way. Our thanks go to Kevin Ascott for his sterling work and research with this. Our Printer hopes to improve and update his 'publisher' skills in time for next year's Hundred! Copies of the Itinerary are still available from me either by post or e-mail for those interested in the historical content and basic route outline.

Hopefully, you will read elsewhere of our ongoing plans for the 2007 Essex Hundred from Debden to Chipping Ongar, thus closing the link to our **Three Hundred Mile Walk** in a triangular fashion across Essex, comprising 27 separate linked circular walks.

Jim Woodcock – 01702 346688

[jamesmwoodcock@btopenworld.com](mailto:jamesmwoodcock@btopenworld.com)

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Your friends & colleagues can get this version simply by emailing:

[talkingwalking@aol.com](mailto:talkingwalking@aol.com)

Contact:

*Len Banister*

*41 Gordon Avenue, London E4 9QT*

*Phone: 020 8527 8158*

*Don't say you weren't warned....  
the 2007 programme for the Essex 100 is set out below  
Rambles Secretaries could ensure an upsurge in the success of this event by simply  
replacing their normal programme with these walks from 1<sup>st</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2007*

## **ESSEX HUNDRED - SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> TO SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2007**

### **DEBDEN TO CHIPPING ONGAR**

As announced earlier this year within EAU, and in September via the 2006 Essex Hundred Itinerary, next year's Hundred will take us in a series of linked circular walks from Debden, this year's finishing point, down to Chipping Ongar, our starting point in 2005, in a general southward direction, veering east and west, as necessity dictates.

At present, we have eight Leaders in place and just two Days left to allocate. We await further responses from certain quarters to fill the gaps. It is hoped to commence the walk-outs later this year and/or early next year with final circuits a little before the main event. Should anyone out there wish to be involved with the walk-outs, planning or any other aspect of the Hundreds, in particular, and Area Walks, in general, we shall be pleased to hear from you. Please e-mail, telephone or write, or see us on our ordinary group walks!

*Presently, the provisional outline of the Essex Hundred for 2007 looks like this:-*

<b>DAY</b>	<b>CIRCUIT ROUTE</b>	<b>MEETING POINT</b>	<b>GR - TL</b>	
1	Saturday	Debden to Widdington	Debden Village Hall	555 334
2	Sunday	Widdington to Henham	Fleur de Lys Pub	539 316
3	Monday	Little Easton to Molehill Green	Little Easton Sports Field	607 241
4	Tuesday	Little Easton to Takely	Little Easton Sports Field	607 241
5	Wednesday	Woodside Green to Takely	Woodside Green	522 184
6	Thursday	Woodside Green to Hatfield Heath	Woodside Green	522 184
7	Friday	Matching Green to Hatfield Heath	Matching Green	537 110
8	Saturday	Matching Green to Fyfield	Matching Green	537 110
9	Sunday	Ongar to Morton	Chipping Ongar Lorry Park	550 026

We hope that the twenty-second Essex Hundred will continue the good work achieved in previous years and that there will be considerable support from everyone to ensure that this remains a most enjoyable event on our walking calendar. This will see us complete our triangle of twenty seven linked circular walks in Essex that we commenced in 2005 and we once again thank Dave Hitchman for his efforts in providing us with these walks.

Therefore, we need to create something for 2008 and we would welcome all suggestions and offers of assistance. Do we continue Circular Walks or revert to a Linear Walk, using perhaps the 'two car trick' to connect the start with the finish each day? Or, do we implore all our local groups to put forward a favourite walk in their patch? We would need nine such walk offers to continue the usual format established over the last twenty one years.

Please contact any or all of the following:-

**Jim Woodcock** [jamesmwoodcock@btopenworld.com](mailto:jamesmwoodcock@btopenworld.com) 01702 346688/342999 FAX

**Len Banister** [talkingwalking@aol.com](mailto:talkingwalking@aol.com) 0208 527 8158

**Colin Jacob** [JakeC37@aol.com](mailto:JakeC37@aol.com) 01277 821839

**John Francis** 0208 527 3938

## Dear Editor....

### **DEAR EDITOR...1**

Some time ago I reported three stiles on a footpath that crosses Wintry Wood Farm, Epping to be in need of repair. I was very pleased to see these stiles have now been replaced by the V type stiles. These stiles are so much easier for those of us who are not as agile as we used to be. I do hope we will see more of these in the future.

Due to the fact that I have osteoarthritis in both knees, I have lost considerable strength in my thigh muscles and I find I cannot get over many stiles because the step is too high. I have therefore had to stop going on country walks with the Ramblers. I am sure there must be many people who have the same problem. If two steps were installed instead of one high one this would solve the problem. I am sure many others would be able to enjoy country walks again with a group.

**Maureen Taylor.** (Lee Valley Friends.)

### **OF COURSE HE'S RIGHT....2**

Just received my hard copy of EAU Len.

On the simplified agenda should not item 6 read: Election of Group Representatives to the Area EXECUTIVE?

The Groups choose their own reps to Area Council I think? Regards **Kevin**

### **HEAT EXCHANGERS....3**

Hi Len, You may be interested in the following exchange of correspondence I have had with the Chief Executive of the Ramblers on the topic of wind turbines/nuclear power.

I don't know if this issue has already been discussed within the Essex Area, but, if not, perhaps now is the time to do so. Best Wishes, **Frank Iszatt**

Dear Ms Elliott,

6th October 2006

I am extremely concerned about the line that the Ramblers are taking towards energy policy. Your attack against onshore wind energy production (and your apparently 'neutral' attitude towards nuclear power) is misguided. It is feeding into the hands of those who are promoting nuclear power expansion, a technology which is massively expensive, has unresolved radioactive waste disposal problems, is a long-term health risk, uses a resource (uranium) with insecure and limited availability, is a potential security risk, and requires to be in operation for 10 years before it 'pays back' for the carbon emissions used in the initial development of each station (unlike a wind turbine, which 'pays back' for its development within just 7 months).

The current wave of large onshore wind projects should be seen for what they are: a temporary, emergency response to the climate crisis that we face. As alternative sustainable technologies develop (for example, off-shore wind, tidal stream and wave produced energy), the current crop of wind farms will become obsolete in the next 20 years or so. At that time, these wind turbines can easily be dismantled (after having made, in the interim, a significant contribution towards meeting our energy needs, a significant net contribution towards the reduction of carbon emissions, and having stimulated the development of more and better sustainable alternative developments). Unlike nuclear power stations, the impact of which we will be stuck with for literally thousands of years, these onshore wind turbines can quickly and efficiently be dismantled when they are superseded by other sustainable alternative technologies. As a lover of the countryside, I share some of your concerns about these huge turbines, yet as someone who lives close to and regularly 'rambles' near to, 2 nuclear power stations, I know which of the 2 sources of energy I prefer from the point of view of safety, health and long-term sustainability - as well as visual impact.

I strongly urge you to take a longer term view and to reconsider your approach to this issue. It is of immense importance and there must be a proper debate amongst members before the Ramblers make any further move to attack wind turbines and open the way, as they appear to be doing, for further nuclear power development.

I look forward to your early response. Best Wishes, **Frank Iszatt**, Member.

Ms Elliott's reply & more on the next page....

Dear Mr Iszatt,

My apologies for taking so long to reply to your email.

I hope I can reassure you by saying that I whole-heartedly agree that this issue most certainly does need debate among the membership as a whole and I'm glad to say that during our meeting last weekend the Board committed to do this. We also need further research and a balanced, rational analysis of the energy options to inform the debate.

Do bear with us and please continue to let us have the benefit of your advice and information.

Best wishes, **Christine Elliott**.

#### **DEAR EDITOR....4**

A possible item of news.

"On Sunday 15th October, Derek & Jessie Keeble celebrated the fortieth anniversary of their first walk with Colchester Ramblers, by leading a ten-mile walk in the same Maldon vicinity.

They started from Heybridge Basin, on what they believed was the first such anniversary for Colchester Group of the Ramblers' Association, the first Group to be formed in Essex."

Keep happy feet, **Derek Keeble**

## **ESSEX AREA WALKS WORKING PARTY**

*.....and more opportunities for collaboration*

### **ESSEX AREA WALKS - SPRINGTIME 2007**

A Plea from The Essex Area Walks Working Party:

We should like to ask all our local groups to consider hosting a walk in their home territory sometime during the month of May 2007 using the established format of the nine day walk, as previously utilised for the Spring Walks and for the Essex Hundred.

Depending on the 'week' selected, this could include the last weekend of April or the first weekend of June. The daily distance would be between 10 and 12 miles for those preferring all day walks.

If possible, given sufficient response and support, it may be desirable to also have offers of the 'Friends' type shorter walks so that all our groups could be included thus preventing any exclusion.

'Figure of Eight' walks might allow us to cater for both short and long walks and also enable members and visitors to enjoy Morning and Afternoon Walks.

As an alternative to the format of the traditional nine day walk, we could consider having Group sponsored Area Walks on one day per month, whether on a first or last Saturday or Sunday?

We look forward to suggestions and offers of assistance to any member of the **Essex Area Walks Working Party**, listed below, and thank you in advance for your help.

**Jim Woodcock** [jamesmwoodcock@btopenworld.com](mailto:jamesmwoodcock@btopenworld.com) 01702 46688/342999 FAX

**Len Banister** [talkingwalking@aol.com](mailto:talkingwalking@aol.com) 0208 527 8158

**Colin Jacob** [JakeC37@aol.com](mailto:JakeC37@aol.com) 01277 821839

## **ACCESSING ACCESS**

Although Essex has probably got less open access land than virtually any other county as a result of CROW, it is still informative to see where it is. The Natural England website dedicated to access will show our areas along with those of other counties. You can also find out about restrictions which might apply at certain times of the year (grouse shooting etc).

Try it at <http://www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk/>

## Footpath Diversions Update

**Divers 21 Oct 2006 DMMOs [BAS CFD MAL ROC UTT districts only]**

<b>Path</b>	<b>NGR</b>	<b>Refs Brief Details</b>
Billericay 12	TQ 659958	Minor rerouting keeping to garden bdy approaching Bluebell Wood from south and westerly section now N of road [Bluebell Wood]
Noak Bridge 21 [Basildon] 106	TQ 686912 to 689905	From bridge over stream, now straight SE slight bend to S to come out in Wash Rd opposite Royston Ave FP 60 just to east still passes through 41 Wash Rd!
Lt Waltham 28	TL 711115	Opposite Croxton Mill Cott path now slightly to west, between hedge & fence then swinging east to pick up previous alignment northwards.
Runwell 4 & 7	TQ 749965	Minor diversion. Approaching Poplar's Fm. Path goes to east side of bdy past farm buildings. FP 7 then goes straight on along track while Fp 4 goes off west and then SW
Lt Totham 7& 8	TL 883111 to 883103	A long crossfield to field edge. At Moor's Fm path diverts east to corner of moat then SE along track to follow field edge. South of northern reservoir. It follows track beside southern reservoir, turns west past it following track to join Fp 8 from west. It turns east over stream and then south on its former route.
Canewdon 21	TQ 942952 to 983939	Planned retreat - seawall path diverted to new seawall behind Gardeners Point and from opposite Burnham Town steps to round in the mouth of the Roach.
Hockley 12 & 13	TQ 834936 to 837939	Fp 12 from Crabtree Wood now follows field edge NE and SE on original line to meet FP 13. This now runs in same line E to Plumberow Access Point. Then follows Plumberow Wood edge. At N end strikes SW to gain its previous route northwards.
Gt Dunmow div 59 ext	TL 61520	Path through Minchins, splitting to join Fp 54 is replaced by a path going E and SE at the farm boundary passing the pond and continuing straight to meet fp 54
Lt Sampford 33, 44 & 50	TL 613336	A similar story at Friar's Fm. Paths in the farmyard and through the pond are replaced by a bypass path coming off the approach road from the north, passing west and south of the farm buildings. Paths west, east and south come off this "bypass".

Copies of Divers 11 – 20 are available from: John Dowding, [jeanrien@jndowding.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:jeanrien@jndowding.freeserve.co.uk)  
and Wendy Rogers, [wjrogers@talktalk.net](mailto:wjrogers@talktalk.net)

### The following JOB DESCRIPTIONS recently appeared on the Ramblers' net....

**AREA SECRETARY:**

Arrange meetings,  
Ensure papers are received and circulated to appropriate personnel,  
Maintain the impression that the Area is working when asked by Central Office or the Board,  
Keep an eye of what other Area Officers, especially the Chairman, and your Local Groups are up to,  
Undertake any role which no-one else wants to do.

**LOCAL FOOTPATH SECRETARY:**

Receive all the paperwork From Central Office and file appropriately,  
Study the local press or arrange for your local highway Authority to notify you of any changes to the network,  
Arrange for local Group members to act as runners and go out and check the paths for you,  
Attend the odd Public Inquiry or Highway Authority event, preferably when food and drink is being served, to show your face from time to time,  
Write the odd letter to your local MP,  
Attend your local Group AGM and amaze them all with some technical detail on a ROW matter.

*Andrew Chadwick, VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT MANAGER  
of the CENTRAL OFFICE dishes out some useful advice prior to the  
season for resolutions:*

### **What stirs people to volunteer for you in the first place?**

In groups of any kind volunteers often come from within and are recruited through word of mouth. Is a different approach needed when reaching out beyond the immediate circle? When we value the people around us, we can feel a strong influence to work together with them. We often get involved as volunteers because our friends ask us or because it's sociable and fun working with people we get on with. Sometimes we also stay involved because we don't want to let others down.

For Ramblers Groups and Areas with their strong social networks this type of motivation is gold dust. Getting to know each other on walks or through social events is often quoted as the best way to find new volunteers. This undoubtedly explains the great success of "face-to-face" recruitment in the Ramblers. However, it has a potential flip side and also goes some way to explaining the much lower success of calls for volunteers who lie outside the immediate circle - the requests in newsletters, the adverts in annual reports and the pleas at AGMs!

Being asked to volunteer by someone within a group that we relate to, can feel good. It can affect our sense of belonging and identity. As a result it lends itself neatly to the recruitment tactics such as charm, persuasion and peer pressure. The latter may explain why some of us protest light-heartedly at having had their arms twisted to volunteer!

Yet asking someone outside our immediate circle to volunteer does not lend itself to these same tactics. In fact, they can too easily be counter-productive. "Outsiders" do not know the individuals in the group, what makes it tick and laugh. The fact that John or Elaine has been Group Chair for ten years means nothing to them if they can't relate to the individuals. What will it matter if "many hands make light work" when they don't know whose hands they are being invited to work alongside?

For "outsiders", we need a different approach.

Instead of selling the relationships, it is more important to sell the cause. What does the Group exist to do? And why is this good thing?

Whenever we volunteer we are giving up our one finite asset - our time. If we can't be clear what we're ultimately giving our time for, there is little chance that we'll give much of it.

Ramblers Groups and Areas are bursting with activity that supports the charitable aims of the organisation but how many people know this? Indeed, how many of our own members know this? We can be sure that if we don't tell them, the answer is going to be "not a lot".

Groups and Areas are ideally placed to bring the Ramblers objectives to life. Where centrally produced literature talks about the broad issues and objectives, Groups can point to specific local examples and highlight successes or issues that resonate locally. "Through our work we won access to x open space"; "Our walks programme attracts y new people every year"; "We kept footpath z safe from closure". Whatever it is, we need to let people know.

When we turn to our members and invite them to get involved with us, we need to avoid the trap of assuming they know us well. What do we really know about them apart from their names and addresses? And, more importantly, what do they know about us?

If every Group and Area can be clear about why it does what it does, this provides the firmest foundation for convincing others to get involved with you. It can help us avoid the trap of saying "join us 'cos you'll like us" and say instead "join us 'cos you'll like what we do".

Knowing what we do and why a vital foundation is. As a first step in encouraging more people to volunteer with us, would we gain from reminding ourselves and re-stating it?

### **Elli Constantatou, Tourism Programme Manager and editor of ex | dra**

tells us that, "events organisers can promote their events free of charge through our website [www.realessex.co.uk](http://www.realessex.co.uk). All they have to do is register on the homepage and then any events can be uploaded to the site and directly published.

Also if you have any publications / leaflets / walks etc which I can promote through the site, I would be most happy to do so".

## MEETING WITH ECC

Since the last EAU, the Chair & Secretary of the Footpaths sub-committee and the Area Secretary met with Cllr Bass, Portfolio Holder for Highways and Tony Ciaburro.

The Public Rights of Way service is being restructured. As soon as the reorganisation is complete we will meet again to make sure that our methodology for reporting footpath problems (to be published in booklet form) meshes with the new ECC structure.

A new computerised system means that much more data is potentially available to us. This could mean that we will have access to many more reports on the state of the PRoW system and the work being undertaken than we have in the past.

We already have an intention of involving more of our members in the Parish Paths Partnership schemes. It was useful to know that, the more active these initiatives were, the more money would be available.

A further meeting, early in the New Year, would be more likely to yield some practical results.

## JOHN DOWDING brings news of *Coo - d'etat in Chingford*

A programme of work was completed in May at Chingford station, to eradicate the problems caused by pigeons at the station. The work, priced at £2,000, included rubber spikes being fitted underneath platform canopies and on lighting equipment and is intended to prevent pigeons from landing or nesting. Plastic owls have also been introduced to the station as another deterrent.

Both these methods have been implemented after successful trials at other stations that pushed pigeon numbers downwards. Perry Ramsey, One's West Anglia Route Director says "Pigeons at stations cause a nuisance in terms of noise and mess and these methods have been introduced to eradicate the problem. These methods show our commitment to improving our station environments for the benefit of our customers."

Un-named libertarians claim some of the expelled pigeons were seen in a crate at Stansted, marked "Guanotanim Bay - URGENT".

## **NON WALKERS MEALS NOVEMBER 2006 TO MARCH 2007**

A number of Friends who are currently unable to walk, decided in September to launch a once a month programme of meals for ramblers who are missing seeing other walkers to have a chat and a meal out together.

We have had two such meals so far at Battlesbridge and Finchingfield, each attended by 7 diners who were interested in the project. We feel this has been a worthwhile start and would like to invite any other ramblers currently unable to get out on rambles, to join us if they are interested.

The next meal is on Thursday **30th November 2006** at 12.30pm, The Anchor P.H. Burnham on Crouch. Phone Vera Barry on 01708 761126 by 23rd November **to book a place.**

The next programme of meals is currently being drawn up and full details will be available at Burnham on 30th November or from Ann McLaren, 20 Runsell View, Danbury CM3 4PE on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope after 10th November.

The next few meals out will take place on Tuesday 30th January, Wednesday 27th February 2007, and Thursday 29th March 2007 if you want to make a date in your diary. Full details of venues and booking arrangements will be on the meals programme.

**Ann McLaren**, Essex Area Vice President.

## **SSE DIARY DATE: STANSTED QUIZ SUPPER**

**Saturday 25 November 2006, 7.30 pm – St John's Hall, Stansted**

It's question time again in Stansted Mountfitchet as Liz Kadir and Vanessa Pedder once again stage their annual quiz supper in aid of Stop Stansted Expansion.

Tickets are now available on an individual or group basis, £10 each to include a hot supper and pud. Tables can hold 6-8 people but don't worry if you've no-one to play with – we'll find you a team to join! There'll also be a licensed bar and raffle. To reserve your place, contact:

- a.. **Liz Kadir** on 01279 814931 or [liz@sfax.co.uk](mailto:liz@sfax.co.uk)
- b.. **Vanessa Pedder** on 01371 831193 or [vanessa@sfax.co.uk](mailto:vanessa@sfax.co.uk)

## What's On

### GLOBAL WARMING FILM AT SAFFRON SCREEN

Former US Vice President Al Gore's thought-provoking film 'An Inconvenient Truth' is a truly absorbing documentary about the "planetary emergency" of global warming and a must-see film.

It is coming to the Saffron Screen in Saffron Walden on 26 and 27 November and many Stop Stansted Expansion members are already planning to go because of the link between climate change and aviation – the fastest growing source of the emissions which contribute to global warming.

The two screenings of the film are as follows:

**Sun 26 November, 8.00pm**

**Mon 27 November, 7.45pm** – on this evening the film will be followed by guest speaker *Dr Stephen Peake*, Lecturer in Environmental Technology at the Open University.

If you haven't already reserved your seats, make a booking now by contacting either the Tourist Information Centre, Market Place, Saffron Walden CB1 1HR (01799 510444) or the Saffron Screen Box Office (07786 463861). Tickets are £5.00 each (concessions £3.50).

A limited number of tickets are reserved for sale on the day.

Saffron Screen is at The County High School, Audley End Road, Saffron Walden.

For more information see [www.saffronscreen.com](http://www.saffronscreen.com)

### MALDON & DENGIE 100 GROUP ANNUAL QUIZ

This will be held on **Saturday 10th February 2007** at 7.00 for 7.30pm

at **Wickham Bishops Village Hall**, on Snows Corner, Wickham Bishops (GR 844124)

*Please enter your team (maximum of nine)*

**£5.00 per person to include a ploughman's supper, tea and coffee**

*BYO drinks*

**Contact Wendy & Jim McWhirr on 01621 891055 to book**

### *and Holidays...*

We have a small independent business in Crete offering studio accommodation with optional guided walking. For independent walkers (not booking guided walks), we are happy to offer advice and help with resources such as maps or route suggestions.

Our website is [www.footscapesofcrete.com](http://www.footscapesofcrete.com)

If you make your members aware of us, we will offer them a further 10% discount if they quote "UK Walk Group Discount" when booking.

Regards, **Liz Sharp**, FOOTSCAPES OF CRETE

**Bill Bryson's** favourite walk, if the **RA** is to be believed, is in **Park Farm Havering**, part of the Woodland Trust's Green Arc project.

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION — ESSEX AREA

*Don't forget...*

**FESTIVAL OF WINTER WALKS 26<sup>TH</sup>  
DEC - 2<sup>ND</sup> JAN**

This centrally organised Festival is the most popular and most successful of all the Ramblers' Association's National events. We gain more new members from this than all the other initiatives put together, possibly because it combines the notions of exercise, goodwill and resolutions.

Groups are urged to make a real effort to plaster their areas with posters advertising their special walks.

You can have any number of posters printed on special Festival backings with your own wording and sent to you *free of charge* if you contact **Len** on [talkingwalking@aol.com](mailto:talkingwalking@aol.com). All he wants is:

1. the wording
2. the quantity
3. the mailing address

He will look after the design, printing and posting. All he asks is that the wording should be typed or emailed so that he saves time setting it up on his computer.

&

**FIRST AID - Please! Your help is needed!**

We now have the names of three people wanting to take this training. Can all Group Secretaries and Rambles Secretaries look through their leaders/membership contacts and speak to anyone else in their group who may be interested in taking this course. It could be either as a walker taking first time training or a member who just wants to renew an out of date certificate. Please let **Ann McLaren** 01245 223657 have any leads. We, on Area Council would like to enable those who have so far come forward to receive their training sooner rather than later. Many thanks.

**CONTACTS: Len Banister, 41 Gordon Avenue, London E4 9QT**

**Phone: 020 8527 8158, Email : [talkingwalking@aol.com](mailto:talkingwalking@aol.com)**

**DIARY DATES**

**2006**

- 15 Nov: Footpaths Committee 7.30pm  
28 Nov: Executive Committee 7.30pm  
29 Nov: Black's of Romford, open 8.00pm  
26 Dec - 2 Jan: Festival of Winter Walks

**2007**

- 15 Jan: Area Council 7.30pm  
30 Jan: Executive Committee 7.30pm  
3 Feb: Essex Area AGM  
30 Mar - 1 Apr: General Council -  
Reading University  
4 Apr: Footpaths Committee 7.30pm  
17 Apr: Executive Committee 7.30pm  
14 May: Area Council 7.30pm  
9 Jul: Executive Committee 7.30pm  
15 Aug: Footpaths Committee 7.30pm  
17 Sept: Area Council 7.30pm  
27 Nov: Executive Committee 7.30pm  
5 Dec: Footpaths Committee 7.30pm

**2008**

- 7 Jan: Area Council 7.30pm

**Please note:**

***All meetings are held at the Friends' Meeting House, Chelmsford unless stated otherwise.***