

# countrywide

JULY 2002

COMPANION

## NEWS FROM THE COUNTRYWIDE HOLIDAYS ASSOCIATION

*Dear Members, Affiliated Clubs, Life Members and Loanholders*

The Board of Directors and I are delighted to invite you to the 110th AGM of the Countrywide Holidays Association and the Houseparty weekend.

In the clamour and excitement of the preparation for the XVII Commonwealth Games, it has proved impossible to secure appropriate accommodation around Manchester so we have moved a little north and east to the Stirk House Hotel at Gisburn near Clitheroe. The Board has stayed at the hotel and we can endorse the excellent reports received from Countrywide guests in respect of the comfort, food and facilities. We are pleased to be able to visit this popular hotel in the beautiful setting of Lancashire's Hill Country which offers fine walking.

The weekend will follow the usual format of both formal and informal meetings and social events. A Gala dinner, entertainment and led walks will give opportunity to socialise and catch up with friends. The walks will enable us to enjoy the beautiful landscapes around Gisburn.

The content of meetings will address issues of interest to both club and individual members and provide the chance for input.

It is expected that, as is becoming the tradition, representatives from 'Countrywide Holidays' within Shearings will join us to report on the progress of the partnership and they will be available to answer questions.

I look forward to seeing you at Gisburn.

*Val Harvey,  
Chairman of the Board*

# AGM 2002

## Invitation to members of the Countrywide Holidays Association to the 110th AGM and Houseparty weekend to be held in Lancashire's Hill Country Saturday 12th October Stirk House Hotel, Gisburn near Clitheroe



Once again, we're taking ourselves away for the AGM, this time to the beauty of Lancashire, enjoying the amenities of the Stirk House Hotel. As well as offering excellent comfort and quality food, there is a wonderful leisure complex to enjoy.

The programme for the weekend is outlined inside. We are offering several packages to give you choice and flexibility in planning your visit. Please complete and return the booking form by 16th August and remember to enclose your deposit.

## EXCITING NEW COUNTRYWIDE BROCHURE Autumn 2002 to Spring 2003

The new Countrywide brochure to Spring 2003 is now out, including Christmas and New Year festivities, with eight new venues available.

**NEW!**

**Overseas walking holidays** – soak up some winter sun in Spain, Madeira, Tenerife, Mallorca and Italy, or take in the crisp winter wonderland of Austria and Germany.

**NEW!**

**Walking and sightseeing weekend leisure breaks.** These are new flexible packages to suit modern living, offering a combination of walking and sightseeing with time to relax in lovely locations (often historic city centres) and wonderful hotels, many with superb leisure facilities. First night includes dinner and remaining evenings you choose where to eat. Centres include Chester, Cheltenham, Dunster, Norwich, Tunbridge Wells, Winchester, Leominster, York.



If you have not received a copy, please phone the Hotline on 01942 823456 or visit the website on [www.countrywidewalking.com](http://www.countrywidewalking.com).

# INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Incredible members' holiday offers to enjoy scenic summer walking

# £ Double your money

Here is your next chance to **double** the value of your membership holiday discount vouchers:

☛☛☛ **REMEMBER that the 'Double your Money' discount means money off the prices shown!**

## USING THE BLUE VOUCHER – take £10 off

Prices are per person half board with picnic lunch on walk days only and include en-suite facilities.

### CUMBRIA GRAND, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

29 July 4nts Moderate £209 WLGO54M

### NEVIS BANK HOTEL, FORT WILLIAM

11 August 5nts Moderate £290 WLFOR5M

### ASHBURTON

19 August 4nts Moderate £229 WLASB4M

### BEXHILL-ON-SEA

20 Sept 3nts Moderate £164 WLBXS3M

## USING THE GREEN VOUCHER – take £30 off

### COACH INCLUSIVE LED WALKING

Prices for coach inclusive breaks are per person half board with picnic lunch on walk days only and include en-suite facilities. These holidays are inclusive of coach travel to and from resort although you can also make your own way to the hotel if desired.

They are coded with the prefix of the area from which they depart: WN = from the North West; WR = from the South East; WE = from the North East, Midlands and Yorkshire.

### MARINE HOTEL, LLANDUDNO

19 August 4nts Moderate £259 WN/WE/WKWKUSA

### VALLEY OF ROCKS HOTEL, LYNTON

9 Sept 4nts Leisurely £255 WE/WYWKLSA

### WINDERMERE HOTEL, WINDERMERE

9 Sept 4nts Moderate £271 WNWKJSA

### SELF GUIDED WALKING

Prices are half board per person with en-suite facilities.

### MARINE HOTEL, LLANDUDNO

20 Sept 3nts £90 WPLLU3

**To book**, phone Countrywide Reservations department on 01942 823456 to check availability, then send in your deposit. When you pay your balance, complete the front of your discount voucher, remembering to tick the 'Double your Money' box, deduct the discount, then send the balance payment to us!

## www.walkingworld.com

This is a marvellous internet company providing walks online for an annual subscription of £14.95, giving you access to all the walk routes for a full year.

**NEW BENEFIT**  
33% off

However, CHA has obtained a discount of a third off. Individual members and club members can save £5 by simply entering a voucher code on the subscription page.

Visit Walkingworld to find over 1,000 walks across Britain. The routes vary from gentle strolls through to serious mountain challenges so you're sure to find something to suit. Each walk comes with an easy-to-follow pictorial guide and an Ordnance Survey map – just print them out and go!

### ALL YOU NEED TO DO!

Finding a walk in Walkingworld's online guide is easy. First click 'Find a Walk' and you will see a map of Britain. Click anywhere on the map and you are shown walks within 50 miles of that point, with the nearest listed first.

If you want to search for a more specific type of walk, click the 'Advanced Search' button and you can select walking areas, the length of walk and even particular features (such as a pub!). If you decide to view a walk in more detail, you can see a brief description, features such as length and height gain, a typical view from the walk and a low resolution version of the Ordnance Survey map. This should give you a pretty good idea of whether the walk is right for you.

If you then wish to print out the full walk, instructions and high resolution map, you need to be a Walkingworld subscriber. To subscribe, you should first join Walkingworld as a member and then visit your personal area on the site – it's called My Walkingworld. Click the link to subscribe and you can pay your subscription online – just fill in the voucher code CH62 to get your £5 discount.

The payment process is completely secure but if you would rather send a cheque, just print out your My Walkingworld page, write the voucher code on it and send it with a cheque for £9.95 to Walkingworld, c/o DVA, 7 Campbell Court, Bramley, Tadley, Hants RG26 5EG.

★★★★★ You can also submit walks, in a format required by Walkingworld, and receive payment!

### MOORGATE GUEST HOUSE, HOPE

As from August, Moorgate Guest House in Hope in the Peak District will no longer be used by Countrywide Holidays as it has been sold to a private buyer.

Moorgate will hold fond memories for many members and clubs but its upkeep, need for investment and problems with access have proved too much to keep within the portfolio.

## PROPOSED AGM 2002 PROGRAMME

### 1 AGM ONLY PACKAGE £12 per person

#### Saturday 12th October

A full day programme including morning and afternoon refreshments and a buffet lunch with attendance at the AGM.

10-11am Clubs' meeting

11am Refreshments

11.30am Members' Forum

12.30pm Lunch

2-4pm AGM

4pm Refreshments

### 2 TWO NIGHT WEEKEND PACKAGE

#### 11-13th October £80 per person

Everything included (except liquid refreshment!) from dinner on Friday evening through to a picnic lunch on Sunday.

#### Friday 11th

7pm Welcome dinner followed by social evening with fun and games in traditional CHA style.

#### Saturday 12th

Breakfast then AGM package as above.

7pm Gala dinner followed by a Houseparty.

#### Sunday 13th

Breakfast and picnic lunch included. Join in one of the guided walks or look round the area yourself.

### 3 THREE NIGHT WEEKEND PACKAGE

#### 11-14th October £110 per person

The two night package as above plus dinner on Sunday night, overnight accommodation and breakfast on Monday. A great chance to enjoy a leisurely long weekend break.

### Wonderful led walks on Sunday 13th October – price included!

We are planning a half and a full day guided walk so that guests can get out and see some of Lancashire's hill country on foot. Below are provisional details – more information at the AGM.

#### 1 Half day 5.5 miles (9kms) Ascent 350ft (105m)

A leisurely walk from the hotel, following field paths and lanes through to Gisburn. The return will take in The Ribble Way, walking close to the River Ribble and ascending through woodland.

#### 2 Full day 9 miles (14kms) Ascent 1450ft (450m)

Coach to the pretty village of Barley at the foot of Pendle Hill then along the Pendle Way to the summit which, at 1,831ft, affords magnificent views in every direction. The walk will descend to the quaint estate village of Downham, on to Rimington then by field paths back to Stirk House. *A charge of approx £5 will be made for coach travel.*

### GETTING THERE!

*By car* From M6 junction 31 follow A59 east for 20 miles. The hotel is on the left, 2 miles before Gisburn. From the M65, junction 13, follow the A682 to Gisburn, turn left onto A59 for 2 miles and hotel is on right.

*By train* Nearest stations are Skipton 12 miles, Clitheroe 6 miles (limited service) and Blackburn 12 miles. Rail information on 08457 48 49 50.

*National Express* Buses stop in Colne, Skipton and Nelson, all 10 miles away. Call 08705 808 080.

By train or coach, the final stage of the journey to the hotel can be made by taxi or local bus.

*Please let us know if you need help with travel.*

## BOOKING FORM FOR AGM 2002

I/we plan to attend the AGM itself but do not require accommodation, meals or refreshments

No. persons

I/we plan to attend Countrywide's 2002 AGM and require accommodation. Please reserve the following:

Full day AGM package WFGBNA

Sat 12th October @ £12pp

Two night weekend package WFGBNB

Fri 11th - Sun 13th October @ £80pp

Three night weekend package WFGBNC

Fri 11th - Mon 14th October @ £110pp

**Sunday excursions** Please indicate if you are likely to join in a Sunday walk. Full details at the AGM Activities Desk on Saturday 12th October.

No. persons

1 Half day walk

2 Full day walk

**Type of accommodation required** (all rooms are en-suite)

Single

Room for 2

(state twin or double)

Please complete details above and overleaf, tear off the slip, enclose your deposit of £25pp (or £12pp for AGM day only) and return by 17th August.

## Vincent Pedley

We were shocked early in May to hear of the sudden death of Vince Pedley. He was found collapsed in his car on Sunday 5th May in North Wales and was taken to Glan Clwyd Hospital but did not survive.

The authorities are experiencing difficulty in contacting any family member therefore funeral arrangements are delayed. Official solicitors have been appointed and it may be that they deal with the matter.

Vince served the CHA for many years as both Walks Leader and Host and will also be remembered as a committed Board Member, always giving time and effort for the good of the Association. He will be sorely missed.

If you wish to receive details of the funeral arrangements, when available, please contact Head Office.



The Invited Guest Trust

[www.igt.org.uk](http://www.igt.org.uk)

I am delighted to report activity on a number of initiatives.

The IG Trust now has its own dedicated web site. In the first day of going live on 8th July it took 20 hits and numerous enquiries – pretty good for a small charity! In our other recent venture, aimed at distributing IG funds to help schoolchildren afford to go on school field trips, schools can access information directly through our web site.

An IG weekend is taking place in Castleton in the Peak District for 24 young carers, schoolchildren who are looking after family members. Time away will enable them to be children once again. Val Harvey is looking forward to helping with this group.

I am very much looking forward to coming to the AGM, talking about the IG Trust and meeting with many of you.

*Peter Harrington, Chairman of the IG Trust*

## ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Three members of the Board stand down every year, according to our Memorandum and Articles of Association.

In December 2001 we received Rita Perkins' resignation from the Board due to pressure of work and we report here the death of Vince Pedley. The third member whose tenure ends this October is Mel Owen and he has announced his intention to stand once again. However, if there are any members who wish to stand for election, please phone in for an application form. These have to be returned between 16th August and 13th September.

Please remember that only members and Life members can apply. For anyone interested, we have a leaflet listing the duties and responsibilities of Directors.

## [www.cha-walking.org.uk](http://www.cha-walking.org.uk)

The Association website is being upgraded currently. Based on the design by Pedt Scragg of Signpost, the web team from Questions Answered in York are revitalising the pages.

Within the Forum section, there is a poll on whether members want or would use a dedicated section where they can be 'interactive' with an opportunity to describe popular walks and locations, places to stay...etc.

The membership section is also being made more user-friendly with useful information on the many benefits, whilst clubs' details will be processed more quickly on their own pages.

Our e-mail is now compatible with the web address – so do contact us on [info@cha-walking.org.uk](mailto:info@cha-walking.org.uk).

Miry Lane, Wigan, Lancashire WN3 4AG

Association: 01942 823487 Fax: 01942 324112 Reservations: 01942 823456

E mail: [info@cha-walking.org.uk](mailto:info@cha-walking.org.uk) Web: [www.cha-walking.org.uk](http://www.cha-walking.org.uk)

countrywide  
holidays association

Please indicate to which of the following categories you belong:

Member  Membership No \_\_\_\_\_

Life Member

Loanholder

Club representative  Name of Club \_\_\_\_\_

### Please note

Only officially paid up members, life members and affiliated club representatives are eligible to vote at the AGM. Loanholders are welcome to attend the AGM and the weekend's activities but are not eligible to vote.

Cheques should be made payable to "Countrywide Holidays" (not Association) and returned with this form to:

The Countrywide Holidays Association, c/o Shearings, Miry Lane, Wigan WN3 4AG.

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime tel: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose a deposit of £25 per person for attendance on the AGM packages specified **OR** £12 per person full payment for the AGM day package

Total £ \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_