



2011 ~ a year of change

I would like to thank you all for your support and friendship over the last year. It is amazing to realise that SDW has held a walk every month for the last 8 years and even more amazing is that the weather has in general, been dry!

As most of you will be aware our founder Colin Harris decided earlier this year to put his walking boots out to pasture!! I was very pleased and honoured to be asked to lead our very special group. There cannot be very many groups like this that are run entirely by volunteers, that has a dedicated membership of nearly 200, each wanting to get on the monthly walk. Our success in providing a discovery along with a walk each month creates an overwhelming demand. We were "hoisted by our own petard" and had to devise some means of fairly allocating places. After hours of talks and deliberation I hope, that although far from perfect, our booking system now works and provides us with a safe, manageable number of people on our walks. As always we are looking for extra help! The more the merrier, walk leaders are volunteers who enjoy sharing their interests in our locality with others. There's lots of help and support available so you won't be on your own!

Following our recent survey, thank you for those who responded, we discovered that the vast majority of members were very happy with what we are trying to achieve and want things to carry on in a similar manner.

We've had a wonderfully successful year and our programme has, I believe, met our aims in providing a very varied and interesting set of events.

I look forward to seeing you on Solihull Discovery Walks in 2012. I wish you all good health and in these difficult times, a prosperous year ahead.

Geoff

November 2011