



COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS

<https://cbmwwalkers.org> | admin@cbmwwalkers.org | Newsletter October 2026

Secretariat CBMW

Name	Email	Role
Thijs Broer	chair@cbmwwalkers.org	Chair
Gill Gilvear	secretary@cbmwwalkers.org	Secretary
George Gilvear	treasurer@cbmwwalkers.org	Treasurer
vacancy		Database & Programme Secretary

From the Secretariat

Welcome to the first issue of the **CBMW Newsletter** in our brand-new format! Moving forward, this newsletter will keep you connected with important calendar dates, updates from the Secretariat, and news from our active working groups.

We also want this to be a space for our community. We highly welcome input from leaders and walkers who want to share (on topic) stories, ideas, or insights with the rest of the CBMW community.

Since most of you already post reports and photos of past walks and other events on Facebook, this Newsletter will focus on looking ahead and highlighting topics that need extra attention. Our current plan is to publish on 1st October, 1st December, 1st February, 1st April and 1st June. All of this is a work in progress, and we will shape its evolution together.

Finally, I want to extend our gratitude to Alan and Tracy Moore, who put a lot of time and energy into compiling our previous newsletters. Thank you both for your dedicated efforts, much appreciated!

-Thijs Broer-

As previously shared in our Leaders meetings, we are currently reviewing the **CBMW website** to improve its technical performance, content, and overall look and feel. While this work is progressing steadily, it is moving slightly slower than anticipated. Consequently, we will not meet our initial goal of launching the updated site for the start of the new season in October.

On a positive note, the site remapping is almost complete. Our current challenge is streamlining the content—aiming for less text while still delivering all necessary information. As CBMW, our Duty of Care remains a top priority; we are committed to providing essential information that keeps our walks safe and enjoyable for both Leaders and walkers. A professional (graphic design & website development) recently reviewed our existing site and provided valuable guidance that we are now incorporating into the redesign.

-Thijs Broer-

Part of our Duty of Care is a strong commitment to Emergency Preparedness, which includes **First Aid (FA)**. To avoid any misunderstandings, please note that the CBMW organizes FA *awareness* sessions, not full training courses that result in individual certification.

During walks, providing FA when necessary is a shared responsibility within the group; this duty does not rest solely on the Leader. The Leader -with input and help from the group- coordinates FA, help and rescue actions and makes the final decision if necessary.

All walkers have a personal responsibility to ensure their own FA kit is complete and up to date. The Leader also carries extra FA materials provided by the CBMW. We do this to ensure that specialized items, which are not part of a "standard" kit, are readily available to the group in an emergency. You can find full details regarding FA materials on our website.

-Thijs Broer-

CBMW is turning 40 in 2027! We certainly won't let this pass unnoticed. Preparations are already underway for a series of special S/VS and M/MS walks and a social celebration. To make this happen, we would love your help and input. More details will follow, and we look forward to discussing this at the Leaders' meeting in November.

-Thijs Broer-

Fobs & Supplies. We will be operating a central sales desk for 26/27 FOB's at the Start of Season walks. The cost will be €5 each. Please bring the correct money. Fobs will also be available from leaders throughout the season. Leaders' packs will also be available for collection.

-George Gilvear-

Opportunities. The CBMW needs your help!

- **Zoom Operator** to organise and manage the Zoom facility in the Leaders meeting 5th November.
- **Walks Database & Programme Secretary.** A key role within the Secretariat team who maintains the walks database and manages the programme planning process.

If you, or you know of anyone who would be interested in helping us fill these roles please contact any of the Secretariat.

Dates for your Diary

2026

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|------------|----|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • October | 03 | Boule & Picnic (Summer Programme) | (Villa Gardea, Cap Negret) |
| • October | 07 | Start of Season Walks & Lunch | (Restaurant La Piscina, Parcent) |
| • November | 05 | Leaders Meeting & optional Lunch | (Golf Club, Jávea) |
| • December | 07 | Christmas Lunch | (Restaurant Nou Portet, Murla) |

2027

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|-------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • February | 17 | Spring Festival Walks & Lunch | (venue TBC) |
| • May | 26 | End of Season Walks & Lunch | (venue TBC) |
| • September | 05-12 | Walking Trip Black Forest | (Grafenhausen, Germany) |

Walk Information

Come walking! For information about our planned walks, see the [Walks Programme](#) on our website for details. Please remember to check **Stop Press** for any last-minute changes to the programme!

We kick off the season on 7 October with 3 walks starting from Parcent.

We are currently planning a series of special S/VS and M/MS walks to celebrate the CBMW's 40th Anniversary in 2027. For the time being, we are considering March & April and October & November of next year.

Cutting Crew

A few days ago we watched an online talk by Nick Crane about Britain's footpaths and their development through millennia. Nick is the nutcase who walked continuously for 17 months across all the mountains he could find in his direct path – starting in Finisterre, across the Cordillera Cantabrica, the Pyrenees, the Alps, the Balkans and finally finishing up in Istanbul – apparently still carrying his trusty umbrella. I found myself wondering if the CBMW cutting crew had played any part in smoothing his passage!! Maybe those paths needed less attention than our local routes?

The Costa Blanca Mountain Walkers 'Cutting Crew' have been working out in the mountains for several years and do a great job on the mountain paths. Meeting regularly throughout the walking season for a morning of work a number of our CBMW walkers are out clearing the vegetation from established footpaths, complementing the work done by the local town halls and Spanish walking groups. Many walkers and lots of groups of all nationalities use these mountain paths on the Costa Blanca and all benefit from this clearing. Days of the week are varied to make sure that those with other commitments can usually find a day when they can help.

The occasion is inevitably accompanied by much laughter, healthy exercise and participants take it in turns to provide cake for the end of the efforts. This is often followed by a well earned drink in a nearby bar. They are recognisable not by just by the loppers, shears and hedge cutters they are carrying but also by the orange T-shirts that many wear. We post on the CBMW Facebook page after each session so you can see the fruits of our labours. If you'd like to get involved, then please contact one of the following:

Katy Phipps on +34 699 784 253 , Ralph Phipps on +34 621 084 763, or Les Morris on +34 670 364 832
All via WhatsApp please and then they will add you to the WhatsApp cutting group.

-Ralph Phipps-

Social Events

2026

3 October @ 11:00

Boule & Picnic (3-4 hrs)

Location : Villa Gadea, Cap Negret

Leaders David & Theresa Brain David: +34 711 051 787

Meeting point: 38.6199563, -0.0260674

Location just off the motorway at the Calpe / Altea junction. It's an ideal location with parking and a very large area available for group activities. Very scenic, tree shade and next to the sea (so swimming option in the hot weather).

Walking Trips

Gudrun Dörbecker is offering to organise another walking trip to the Black Forest in week 5th – 12th September 2027. Planning is to walk 4/5 days and have ½ days excursions in the area, e.g. to lake Bodensee.

Gudrun made a provisional reservation at Hotel Rothaus Brewery at Grafenhausen. For more information about the trip and costs, please send an email to Gudrun: nurdug50@gmx.de.