

	RAMBLERS RUSHCLIFFE GROUP AGM
	SECRETARY'S REPORT
	01 OCTOBER 2023 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

1. Introduction

We have had a successful and enjoyable year.

- Our walks programme has been full and varied with. We have waded through many a muddy and flooded field and loved every minute of it.
- We have seen some committed and dedicated committee members retire and we thank them, our existing team and our new recruits for all the work they have completed in this and previous years.

But..

....we cannot do any of this without our members, so a big thank you to you all for your continued support.

2. **Committee**

The following were elected at the Annual General Meeting held on 19 November 2023 to serve on the committee for the following year:

Position	Committee Member
Chair	Mike Stock
Secretary	Julie Lloyd
Minute Secretary	Pam Duesbury
Treasurer	Karen Lewis
Footpath Secretary	Howard Lloyd
Ramblers' Programme	Morag Hunter
Joint Social Secretaries	Louise Mitchell and Hazel Lee
Membership Secretary	Rob Turner
Publicity/Webmaster	Trevor Griffiths
Weekends Away/Holiday Coordinators	Angela Dobie/Louise Mitchell
Delegate to Area Council	Mike Stock
Committee Member	-

During the year, the following were co-opted on to the Committee.

Position	Committee Member
Holiday Coordinator	Chris Slater

Our Chair, Mike Stock continued to attend Area Council meetings as Delegate to Area Council and Pam kindly agreed to continue as the Minutes Secretary.

The committee met four times during the year with an average attendance of 95%.

Given below are the major decisions, made by the Committee other than those stated elsewhere in the report:

a. June Meeting

-Budget proposals

The Treasurer presented a draft budget statement for 2023/24. The Committee agreed that the group would take up its full allocation from Central Office in order to honour our commitment to reimburse expenses.

Volunteer Expenses Review

In accordance with Clause 1.4 of the Volunteer Expenses Policy dated 22/23 July 2019, the rates are to be reviewed annually. It was agreed that there would be no change for the financial year 2024/2025.

Ref Clause	Rates/Limit	Existing	Agreed
2.1.2	Mileage Rate	45p per mile	45p per mile
2.1.3	Annual limit	£475.00	£475.00
2.2.2	Home Printing/ Photocopying	12p per sheet	12p per sheet

Review of Booking System

The committee reviewed the booking system and issued guidance notes to walk leaders. Making walks bookable and restricting numbers is to be left at the discretion of individual walk leaders

3. Membership

I am indebted to Rob for the statistics given below.

Table 1 Membership as 14 October 2024

		Active	Payment Pending	Total	Change
Total		305	1	306	-1
Annual	Individual	163	1	164	-1
Annual	Joint	131	0	131	0
Life	Individual	3	0	3	0
Life	Joint	8	0	8	0
Affiliates	Individual	4	0	4	0

Table 2 Total participation in walks from 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024

	Weekend	Mid-week	Holiday Walks	Holidays	Socials	Total
Rushcliffe	803	180	94	69	108	1254
Other Groups	63	19	0	0	1	83
Non members	35	24	5	2	5	71
Total	901	223	99	71	114	1408
Number of events	59	18	10	2	3	56
Average per event	15	12	10	36	38	25
Individuals (RR)	99	68	41	47	61	126

Out of our total Group membership of 306 we have 126 individuals taking part in at least one of our activities (including socials and holidays). That is 41% of members. We are still the largest group in the county.

4. Walks

This is our core activity. A glance at the walks and activities report clearly shows that we continue to offer regular walks. Including holiday walks, we have put on 93 walks.

Morag is doing sterling work to ensure we have a full programme of walks each quarter and we have also to thank our walk leaders for the exceptional variety of walks they provide. We would still welcome new walk leaders and would encourage all our members to have a go. Our more experienced walk leaders are always here to help.

General Council has now decided how risk assessments must be managed. It has produced three separate risk assessments based on:

- 1 Ramblers Well Being Walks, Easy Access and Easy walks
- 2 Leisurely and Moderate walks
- 3 Strenuous and Technical walks

Walk Leaders must use these as a reference point when planning and recceing a walk and communicate any risks or hazards prior to and on the day of the walk to all participants. These documents are readily available on our website. There is no longer any need to submit a written risk assessment to the Secretary.

5. Walking Holidays

We have had a full programme of holidays and weekends away, which have been greatly enjoyed by all the participants. These have been comprehensively reported in various editions of Relay so there is no need to go into any further detail here. However, we are nonetheless all indebted to Angela and Louise for their hard work in ensuring these holidays are meticulously planned and implemented, with Karen providing invaluable support as Treasurer.

A big thank you to all our members who led walks on any of this year's holidays.

6. Social Events

Our Social Secretaries, Louise and Hazel continue to search for different activities and have been successful with the following:

Christmas Lunch 2023

Christmas Lunch was held at Ashmores Restaurant in Radcliffe on Trent where everyone enjoyed an excellent meal in a convivial atmosphere.

Nottinghamshire Area AGM Area

In February 2024 we hosted the above event in East Leake Village Hall. We provided three walks before the meeting, a picture puzzle, a lunch time quiz and an impressive array of homemade cakes. Many thanks to all those who assisted on the day and to all those who demonstrated their baking skills.

Skittles Evening September 2024

This was an event to say a big thankyou to all our Walk Leaders. It was enjoyed by all who attended.

7. Publicity / Website

Relay

Since last year's AGM, Trevor has produced four editions of Relay covering our activities complete with photos. It is an excellent way of keeping members up to date with our activities and highlighting important national messages.

Trevor puts a lot of time and effort into this informative and amusing publication and thoroughly deserves the accolades received.

8. Footpaths

Howard continued the good work of previous Footpath Secretaries and has been busy with the following:

1. Ploughing and Cropping Surveys

Howard continues to take part in the volunteer training with David Wright, the Via Rights of Way Enforcement Officer. This enables him to assist in the ploughing and cropping test survey to be undertaken by Via.

Julie Lloyd
Secretary
1 November 2024