

SOUTH COTSWOLD RAMBLERS AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the South Cotswold Ramblers was held on Sunday 1st November at the Pavillion Rodborough. In his Annual Report, the outgoing Chairman, Brian Kirkman, thanked all those involved with the Group in helping to put together a varied and extensive programme of walks.

He highlighted some of the activities of the Group which in the last year had included involvement in a 'Welcome to Walking Weekend', a joint exercise with Stroud Rambling Club, and the Stroud Walking Festival, where members of the Group lead some very successful walks. He also referred to two highly successful holidays, the first last Autumn in the Brecons and the second in Spring of this year in the Lake District.

Before going on to thank personally members of the Group for their help over the year, he also mentioned the work of the Footpath Section who had continued to carry out invaluable work in keeping our paths clear, and liaising with the local authorities to ensure rights of way are maintained. On the footpath side we also continued with the kissing gate project, using proceeds from the sale of our walks books to finance the purchase of kissing gate, making access to footpaths easier.

Reports from other officers had also been circulated and following their adoption the Meeting proceeded to the election of Officers. Brian stood down as Chairman and in his place Richard Davis was elected. He expressed his pleasure being elected to the Chair of what is the largest Group in Gloucestershire Area, has the best walking country, has the best walking programme and the most active footpath section. He then took the meeting through the election of other officers which included five new appointments, John Corry Vice Chairman, Diana Davis Treasurer, John Corry Footpath Committee Chairman, Chris Gent Footpath Secretary and Vice Chairman and Bob Frewin Footpath Work Party Co-ordinator.

Once the Meeting had been closed John Gerrard, the Area Chairman, gave a brief address referring to the difficulties which Ramblers had experienced through the recent recession, which hopefully were nearly resolved, then looking ahead to the 75th Anniversary celebrations of the organisation, which were taking place through the coming year.

We then adjourned for the traditional tea and homemade cakes provided by some of our lady members.