

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (or a tale of two meetings)

The first meeting is our own AGM, which was held back in November. It was preceded by a short walk led by Peter and by the usual gorging of tea and homemade cakes provided by some of our excellent culinary experts.

The meeting started with a minute's silence giving us chance to reflect on the life of Denys Thompson who died earlier in the year.

Continuing we received and adopted reports from the Chairman, Footpath Secretary and Treasurer before continuing to the election of officers, committee members and others taking on volunteering roles. Mike thanked Anne Eamer who was standing down as a Walks Collector after many years.

Our meeting was addressed by Bernard Gill representing Area who mentioned in particular the slight fall in membership in the county, the need to report footpath problems and the Lost Ways project. Items of Other Business included a request by Bernard Smith for people to give lifts for members who do not have cars. It was agreed that we would consider the matter at our next Committee Meeting but meanwhile if anybody could help Bernard they were encouraged to come forward.

Colin mentioned the BBC Countryfile's report on the Great British Ramble and asked if we could consider raising money on our walks next year for Children in Need. We agreed that this should be discussed at our next Committee meeting.

The second meeting was the Area AGM. I attended representing South Cotswold and I must admit that the general atmosphere seemed a little bit better than in recent years. The format was changed slightly in that the meeting was broken up by two presentations. The first, by Peter Hillier on the activities of the Gloucestershire Walking Group and in particular their use of Whats App to promote social events and Meet Up to publicise walks, and the second by Martin Thornley on the reporting of footpath problems either using the Gloucestershire County Council website or alternatively our own Pathwatch.

The business of the meeting was carried on between the presentations and while there was the usual lack of volunteers Bernard Gill became Area Chairman and Gwen Chaney volunteered to cover the Membership Secretary's post until a volunteer could be found. The annual reports were presented. Membership was slightly down, an average of two per group, Richard Holmes reported that the situation with our footpath operation was healthy with good coverage of the county. The Area Treasurer reported that reserve levels had been reduced and that the Area's bid for funds for 2018 had not been capped.

Delegates were appointed to General Council and to Welsh Council while other business included an appeal by Mavis Rear for support for the Cotswold Way Association, and the opportunity to view a display and ask questions of Helen and Alex of South Cotswold Group who had completed the 265 mile walk around the boundary of Gloucestershire.

The meeting concluded with a stimulating talk by Kate Ashbrook Vice Chair of Ramblers Board of Trustees.

***Richard - Chairman***

## Group Holiday September 2018 - from Ann A

I have provisionally booked a holiday with Ramblers at Ravenscar on the North Yorkshire coast. The dates are Sept 16th to Sept 23rd and I have reserved 6 double rooms but could only have 7 single rooms with no single supplement, although there may be other rooms available at an extra charge. Knowing that not everyone likes to do long walks I have also arranged for two leaders, the holiday is graded as 5 (the same as Guernsey) and although we will all be doing the same walks, there is an option to limit the distance.

We will be staying at the Raven Hall Hotel situated in a stunning location. The hotel has an indoor swimming pool, games room, tennis courts and a 9 hole golf course.

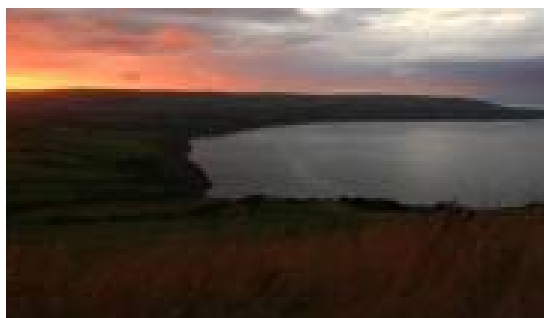
You can view all of this on Ramblers Holidays website. <https://www.ramblersholidays.co.uk/ravenscar-yorkshires-north-coast>

The cost of the holiday is £825 for the 7 nights. If all 7 single rooms have gone, the cost will be more for a double room for sole occupancy. •If you are interested in a **double room (sharing)** then please fill out the booking form on the next page and send with your deposit (£100 per person) to me. If you require a **single room** please email me at [holidays@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](mailto:holidays@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk) or text me and I will allocate the rooms on a first come first served basis, otherwise you will have to pay the supplement. At the time of going to press, Ramblers were unable to confirm the exact cost of the supplement but, if you are not allocated one of the 7 single rooms, ask me.

*Ann Adams, 2 Churchill Close, Nailsworth, GL6 0DW 07931114439*



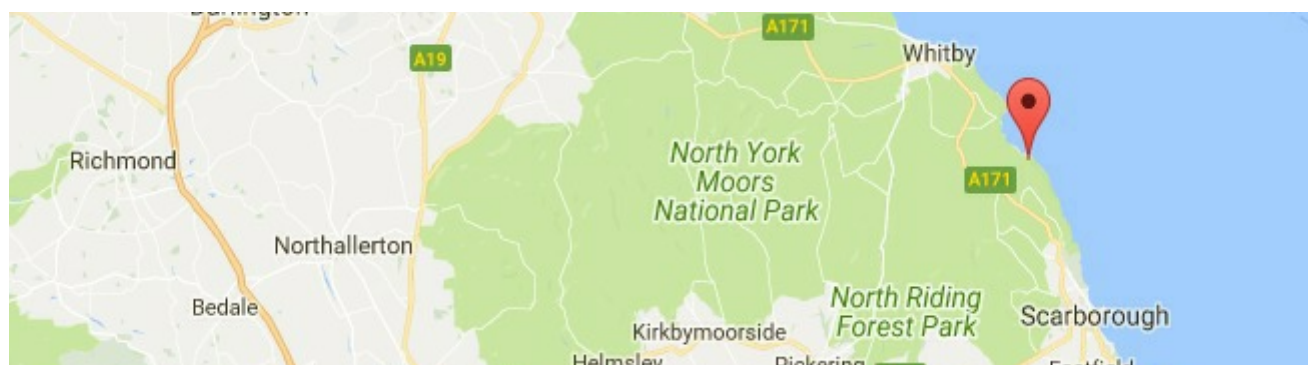
Raven Hall Country Hotel



View from hotel



Robin Hood's Bay



Ramblers Walking Holidays  
Lemsford Mill  
Lemsford Village  
Welwyn Garden City  
AL8 7TR, England



T +44 (0)1707 386723  
F +44 (0)1707 333276  
groups@ramblersholidays.co.uk  
ramblersholidays.co.uk

**Holiday**

Booking Reference Number

**Group Name**

\_\_\_\_\_

(For office use only)

Twin / single - please indicate

**Please enter the names of each person - exactly matching their passports**

Title	First Name	Surname	Date of Birth	Nationality	Country of Birth	Passport No	Date of Issue	Date of Expiry	Country of Issue

**Address – all correspondence and tickets will be sent here**

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Requests**

(e.g. Vegetarian diet, diabetic etc) Please indicate to whom this refers. We regret that these requests cannot be confirmed

\_\_\_\_\_

Person to contact in emergency while you are on holiday with us

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel \_\_\_\_\_

**Insurance**

It is very important that you have travel insurance and we require this of everyone who takes part in our overseas holidays, as without it you will not be able to take part in activities organised by us. Further information on the policy, our services and your rights can be found on [www.ramblersholidays.co.uk](http://www.ramblersholidays.co.uk). If you would like to purchase insurance, you must read the documentation on the website before making your decision.

**I require RWH Travel insurance** ☐

If you have another company's insurance cover, please advise Company \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy No \_\_\_\_\_  
Insurance Emergency Assistance No \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that I have read the booking conditions which are accepted on behalf of all those named.

**If you have requested travel insurance:** I confirm that I have read the Status Disclosure Document / Terms of Business, Summary of Cover and Policy Wording found on the website.  
**PLEASE SIGN HERE**

X \_\_\_\_\_

X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment**

Deposit £100 x \_\_\_\_\_ persons £\_\_\_\_\_  
Insurance £\_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ persons £\_\_\_\_\_  
**Total payment enclosed** £\_\_\_\_\_

Cheque (payable to 'Ramblers Walking Holidays') ☐

Visa Debit ☐ Visa Credit ☐ Mastercard Debit ☐ Mastercard Credit ☐

Card No \_\_\_\_\_ Start Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ End Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Issue No \_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_  
(last 3 digits on signature strip)

## THE SOUTH COTSWOLD RAMBLERS SOUP SURVEY

**Method:** Between November 2016 and November 2017, a year of low inflation, a single examiner (BW) sampled 31 bowls of soup in 26 public houses within 25 miles of Stroud, with three pubs being visited twice and one three times. The menus of two further pubs did not include soup. The sampling always took place at lunch-time after a walk of at least four miles to optimise appetite and alcohol was eschewed so judgement was not impaired. Prices were noted, marks from nought to ten were allotted both for quality and for cost-effectiveness. Judgement of quality was largely based on the taste and temperature of the soup but service and presentation, not only of the soup but also of the bread and butter, were taken into account, although other extraneous factors are known to affect judgement (see SCR Newsletter October 2017).

### **Results:**

**Prices** varied from £3.75 (King's Head, King Stanley) – £7.50 (The Hog, Horsley) with a mean of £5.15 and median of £5.

**Quality** marks ranged from 4-9.5 with a median of 8 and a mean of 7.5. The top quality mark of 9.5 was awarded to soup at two pubs namely the Old Ship, Luckington and the Butcher's Arms, Oakridge.

**Cost-effectiveness** marks ranged from 5-9 with a mean of 7.7 and a median of 8. The Tudor Arms at Slimbridge offered a small "starter" soup for £3.55 which was not included in the survey but, if it had been, it would have been given ten for cost-effectiveness and seven for quality.

Seven soups received nine for cost-effectiveness and two of these, the Green Dragon at Cockleford and the Ram at Bussage also achieved a nine for quality. The former provided good, beautifully-served cream of vegetable soup with good bread and butter and separate dishes for butter and croutons. The Ram at Bussage served ample, creamy brie and broccoli soup with good bread and butter and, unlike any other pub, the menu here included four different soups. The Ram at Luckington was the only pub to achieve a mark of 9 for cost-effectiveness as well as 9.5 for quality for its excellent, tasty and creamy courgette and blue cheese soup with good fresh bread and fine service at a cost of £5.25.

### **Discussion:**

The validity of comparison is reduced when sampling takes place over many months even though temporaneous notes were kept. Soup was served in round bowls, square bowls and covered tureens which were placed variously on round plates, square plates or wooden boards. None of this affected judgement but some soups served in an enamel mug (The Daneway) lost marks because the shape of the mug delayed cooling of very hot soup. Contrary to popular misconception, leak and potato soup was only offered at three of 26 pubs, and tomato soups were the most common, variously described as tomato, tomato with Italian herbs, roasted tomato, tomato and basil, spicy tomato, or tomato with spice.

Bread was variable in quality and sometimes exceptional bread offset indifferent soup or vice versa. Occasionally bread was slightly stale, a problem best rectified by light toasting. Butter sometimes appeared late but was most acceptable when served in a separate dish. Pats of butter wrapped in foil, although saving both waste and labour, were felt to be fiddly and off-putting.

Usually restaurants spend up to 25% of the retail cost of a meal on ingredients but this falls to 5% for soup so good presentation of soup and evidence of culinary care should perhaps be expected. Garnish, croutons or butter in a separate dish were evidence of extra attention. It was usually uncertain which of the better soups were "home-made" for bought soup is of good quality nowadays and can only be matched by the best chefs

**Conclusion:** Price seemed to have only a tenuous relationship to quality but decent soup, bread and butter are available in the Stroud area for about £5.

*Brian W*

If you wish to put anything in the next newsletter (which goes out in June), please email it to *Sally* at [newsletter@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk) by May 29th.

### **An Experimental Dog walk**

Would your dog like to join a ramble in Woodchester Park? Meet at 9 50 Thursday 17th May 2018 at the National Trust Car Park for a maximum 4 mile circular walk. The walk can be shortened for older, or less fit dogs. *Franceska*

### **Going away with Ramblers Holidays?**

We receive a sum of money for Group Funds from Ramblers Holidays where members taking a holiday with them have nominated South Cotswold Group. If you ever forget to tell them when booking, there is still time if you contact them before you go. By your doing so, they will donate £10, £20 or even £30 per person to our funds to be used to benefit walkers. For more info, click the link to Walking Partnership on our Messages page.



## GROUP VOLUNTEERS 2018

### Chairman:

Richard 01453 762373

[chairman@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](mailto:chairman@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk)

### Vice Chairman:

Mike 01453 873625

[mike@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](mailto:mike@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk)

### Group Secretary:

Andrew 01452 857958

[groupsecretary@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](mailto:groupsecretary@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk)

### Group Treasurer:

Brian W 01453 872220

[treasurer@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk)

### Membership Secretary:

Mike 01453 873625

[membership@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](mailto:membership@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk)

### Publicity Officer:

Vacant

### Without portfolio:

Diana

### Website: Mike & Sally

[website@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](http://website@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk)

### South Cots Newsletter: Sally

[newsletter@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk)

### Footpath Chairman and Footpath Secretary:

Bob 01453 545752

[footpaths@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](mailto:footpaths@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk)

### Footpath Committee Minutes Secretary:

John C 01453 845574

[footpaths@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](mailto:footpaths@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk)

### Footpath Clearance

Bob

### Footpath Committee Member:

Penny F

### Led Walks Programme Co-ordinator:

Mike 01453 873625

[mike@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](mailto:mike@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk)

### Led Walks Collectors for July- Oct 2018: (dates needed by 30 April)

John G 01452 728760 Weekend Walks

Jacqui 01666 826139 Start the Week walks

Enid 01242 863283 Midweek walks

Thursday evening walks - **Volunteer collector needed (just 7 walks for July and August)**



Ramblers Charity England & Wales No: 1093577 Scotland No: SC039799

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Choose any of our holidays and we'll contribute funds through **The Walking Partnership** to your group. Just tell us their name when you book.

Walking holiday partner



**Ramblers**  
Walking  
Holidays **R**



## ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS

The next concert will be on 24th March 2018 at 7.30pm at Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Rd., Stroud, Gloucestershire (next to the General Hospital)

### **Programme**

**Weber:** Overture: Der Freischütz

**Borodin:** In the Steppes of Central Asia

**Saints -Saens:** Piano Concerto No 2 Soloist: Katya Apekisheva

**Brahms:** Symphony No 1

Listen to extracts at [www.stroudsymphony.org.uk](http://www.stroudsymphony.org.uk).

Mike will be selling tickets on walks or by post (see order form below) or you can order your tickets from Stroud Tourist Information Office (01453 760960) or pay on the door.

Tickets £11.00 (concessions £9.00)

(This includes a £1.00 reduction if purchased prior to the evening of the concert)

Sat 24 March 7:30 pm at Holy Trinity Church, Stroud (next to the hospital with parking opposite)

To Mike Garner, Southcot, The Headlands, North Woodchester, Stroud GL5 5PS. Please send me the following tickets: ..... @ £11 / ..... concessions @ £9/ ..... accompanied children under 14 free.

I enclose a cheque for £.....payable to Stroud Symphony Orchestra and a Stamped Addressed Envelope for the despatch of tickets.

Signed .....

Please print your name, phone number and, if possible, email address below.

Name.....

Tel no:.....

Email address:.....

### **What a January, weather-wise!**





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### **Denys' Memorial Walk**

Denys died last year on 13th April. John G will be leading a Memorial walk for him on Saturday 14th April from Avening (see Walks Programme).

John has chosen this walk as it was the last one that he and Denys walked over together. John will also be bringing Lemon Drizzle cake which was Denys' favourite. Everyone welcome to join us in memory of a great guy!

### **Annual Lunch Saturday 24 February at the Bear of Rodborough Hotel.**

Hope you are all looking forward to the lunch on the 24<sup>th</sup>. The entrance to the car park is on the Minchinhampton side of the hotel. We are in the Terrace Room which is in the main hotel near the outdoor tables. We have the room from 12 so you are welcome to arrive early and buy drinks at the bar before we eat at 1pm. The Bear required me to provide seating arrangements in advance so I have done my best to put you on tables with people you talk to on walks, but, as we are all such a friendly lot, it shouldn't really matter! The plan of the tables will be there on the day, and I will try to load them onto the website if you can't wait. DON'T move to another table, because you will get someone else's food!! I will, as usual, provide you with a name card with what you chose on it in case you have forgotten and to make it easier for the staff to serve the right food. Looking forward to it. *Sally*

### **Welcome to our new members**

Since the last newsletter in June we have welcomed 11 more members. Andrew, Eleanor, Elizabeth, Geoffrey, George, Gerald, James, Mark, Melonie, Pam and Stephen from Avening, Gloucester, Horsley, Minchinhampton, Nailsworth, Nympsfield, Stroud and Wickwar. Our group has 397 members.

*Mike*  
[membership@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](mailto:membership@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk)

### **Walks Collectors Urgently Needed**

Those who attended the AGM will be aware that Anne Eamer stepped down from collecting walks after many years of volunteering. A big thank you to Anne for all her efforts. We have six volunteer collectors in place but we ideally need three more in order to spread the workload. We firstly need **somebody to collect evening walks for July and August**. This is not too onerous a task as two of the walks are already in place, leaving just seven to be found.

Secondly we need **a couple of collectors for Monday walks** to alternate with Jacqui. It would probably help if they were fairly regular Monday walkers. If we can get two volunteers, it will only involve collecting once a year - Monday walks are once a fortnight. Please consider helping us out.

*Richard*



## Hanky-panky avoidance advice

Following revelations of impropriety in the Houses of Commons and elsewhere, it behoves ramblers to give thought to the bounds of acceptable behaviour, conversation and walking dress.

Tight anoraks, sweaters or trousers are not only impractical for country walks but may have undesirable subliminal effects. As with shorts or other garments showing too much skin or provocative bulges, they should be worn with discretion so that unintended hormonal responses are not stimulated. Perfumes or after-shave should be used sparingly and over-attention to attire evidenced by creases in trousers, crisply ironed shirts or highly polished boots may give unintended signals. This may all seem obvious but remember also that rubber-wear has certain connotations so Wellington boots or rubberised mackintoshes should be used discretely. Less obviously, some long trousers extend only to the lower calf in an effort to avoid muddy splashes. Note that such trousers reveal the ankle in a way that would certainly provoke Victorians.

Showing pleasure on meeting a companion may be evidence of reasonable friendliness but hugs or excessive greetings may seem flirtatious. Similarly exaggerated compliments perhaps about a new haversack or water-proof may be perceived as inappropriate advances. Remember also that language changes with time so, for example, being described as “fit” has a new meaning. Sensitivity to modern jargon, vocabulary and phraseology is essential.

Attitudes to behaviour also change with time and nowadays, a man standing aside to allow a lady to pass first over a stile or through a gate may be perceived as patronising rather than polite. An arm or hand may be offered to help a companion over a high stile but a push on the back or particularly pressure on the buttock should be avoided at all costs. It may also seem over-familiar to place an arm across the shoulder of another even when standing close to a fellow-walker in the rain to share a map or compass.

Finally, when pointing a finger to indicate direction, ensure that the digit is not raised above the horizontal so that an innocent action meant to be helpful is not misconstrued as a rude gesture.

*Brian W*

## **COME WALKING WITH SOUTH COTS THIS SPRING, A CHOICE OF 54! WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING MEMBERS AND VISITORS IN OUR SPECTACULAR COUNTRYSIDE**

**NON MEMBERS** - You are very welcome to walk with South Cotswold Ramblers Group up to 3 times. Just turn up on the day. Ring the leader first if you have questions. We hope you will then join us at [www.ramblers.org.uk](http://www.ramblers.org.uk) or with a leaflet from Mike. Quote South Cotswold if you wish to be in our Group. You can then walk with any Ramblers' Group in Great Britain.

### **OUR WALKS ARE LISTED ONLINE HERE**

<http://tinyurl.com/SCRWalks> with maps. **WHAT TO BRING** Bananas are popular as a snack, and bring plenty of water. On day walks you are advised to bring food, even if planning a pub lunch, in case the pub is closed. Wear strong footwear. Bring waterproofs and/or warmer clothing, a whistle and your own simple first aid kit. Remove muddy boots in pubs/churches.

**PLEASE do not walk ahead of the leader unless asked.**

**BACK MARKER** Most parties will have a back marker appointed for the walk. Please inform this person if you need to drop behind for a comfort stop, and tell them when you catch up.

**HOW HILLY IS THE WALK?**      **Terrain 0** Level.

**Terrain 1** Not much climbing.      **Terrain 2** Hilly and level mix.

**Terrain 3** Quite hilly.      **Terrain 4** Extremely hilly.

**PACE** Most of our walks are of **Moderate** pace, averaging 2 mph with stops. Monday walks at 1.5mph are all **Leisurely**.

**RING** the leader if you are in doubt, especially if you haven't walked recently. Perhaps try a shorter walk or two first.

**OVERSEAS VISITORS** are very welcome on any of our walks.

**ALL MESSAGES** on our website will show any walk changes or additional information (plus plenty of other news). Please check, especially if travelling a distance, at [www.southcotswoldramblers.org.uk](http://www.southcotswoldramblers.org.uk)

**DOGS** - Sorry, registered assistance dogs only.

### **IMPORTANT - KEEPING TOGETHER, ESPECIALLY IN A WOOD**

All members of larger parties are asked to help by keeping a look out behind them. If the people behind you are in danger of losing touch, please pause and tell the people in front of you to wait as well. One way is to give a long blast on your whistle.

**ADVERSE CONDITIONS** Leaders may decide to cancel or shorten the walk, taking into account everyone's health and safety. Please contact them if in doubt or see our website.

**== 48 VOLUNTEER LEADERS THIS TIME, THANK YOU ==**

**THE RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION** is a registered charity (England & Wales no 1093577, Scotland SC039799) and a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (no 4458492) Registered office 2nd floor, Camelford House, 87-90 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TW.

ALL LEISURE ACTIVITIES have inherent hazards associated with them including rambling. In spite of participants' safety always being the paramount concern, accidents will occasionally occur. It is important that each person appreciates their responsibility to identify hazards and take all reasonable steps to eliminate or minimise the potential for accidents. © South Cotswold Ramblers 2018



# South Cotswold Ramblers

## Our Walks Programme

### 3rd March to 4th April 2018



**Sat 3 Mar Inspired by Horsfall House Moderate 11.5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 16:00 Minchinhampton, Avening, Cheriton, Box. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Bring a picnic.  
**Leader - Jenny** 01453 887419 on day 07749 032596 Meet 09:50 Minchinhampton, edge com. behind Church. (GL6 9JR) L162/E168 SO872009 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/y9qxsbt](https://tinyurl.com/y9qxsbt)

**Mon 5 Mar A common connection Leisurely 4m**  
Start 10:30 Est finish 13:00 Selsley Common, South and North Woodchester. Selsley village. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Hills taken at a gentle pace. **Leaders - Mike and Heather** 01453 873625 on day 07749 282087 Meet 10:20 Selsley Common main car park on B4066. (GL5 5PL) L162/E168 SO828026 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/y9gna6fo](https://tinyurl.com/y9gna6fo)

**Wed 7 Mar Over the Moors Moderate 5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 12:45 Bisley, Cops Grove, Toadsmoor Valley, Bismore, Crickety, Bisley. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Please pre-book food. **Leaders - Brian and Ann** 01452 770510 on day 07770 895035 Meet 09:50 Bisley, The Bear CP or on road if not using pub. (GL6 7BD) L163/E179 SO903060 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/ycw82pss](https://tinyurl.com/ycw82pss)

**Sat 10 Mar Foston's Ash West and East Moderate 9m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 16:00 morning 4.5 miles Overtown Farm, Sheepscombe Common. 1:30 pm approx. 4.5 miles Climperwell, Starveall. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Pre-order meal at Foston's Ash through leader, or bring a picnic. **Leaders - Bill and Penny** 01452 813094 Meet 09:50 Foston's Ash CP. Park on gravel starting from rear of CP. (GL6 7ES) L163/E179 SO914114 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/y7bny9d7](https://tinyurl.com/y7bny9d7)

**Wed 14 Mar A walk for the Common people Moderate 5.5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Burleigh, Amberley and Box. A walk around the perimeters of the common. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Places nearby for lunch afterwards. **Leaders - Steve and Rosemary** 01453 860130 Meet 09:50 Minchinhampton, edge of common behind Church. (GL6 9JR) L162/E168 SO872009 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/ybvwrkfv](https://tinyurl.com/ybvwrkfv)

**Sat 17 Mar Another day in Paradise Moderate 5.5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 12:45 Painswick stream, Olivers, Paradise. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. **Leader - Olivia** 01453 751716 Meet 09:50 Painswick Walkers CP, off B4073. (GL6 6RR) L162/E179 SO867104 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/yaqcxd24](https://tinyurl.com/yaqcxd24)

**Mon 19 Mar Signs of Spring at Minchinhampton Leisurely 3.5m**  
Start 10:30 Est finish 12:30 From Minchinhampton across the level, then down the hill to visit Hyde. Pleasant walk back along the ridge with lovely views. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Hill at Hyde will be taken slowly. **Leader - Jacqui** 01666 826139 Meet 10:20 Minchinhampton, edge of common behind Church. (GL6 9JR) L162/E168 SO872009 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/yd7j4fwd](https://tinyurl.com/yd7j4fwd)

**Wed 21 Mar How long does fruit cake last? Moderate 6m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:15 A walk round the woods of Miserden to celebrate National Forest Day and to use up the fruit cake which didn't get eaten following the cancellation of the December walk. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Pub lunch at end of walk. Order beforehand. **Leaders - Richard and Diana** 01453 762373 on day 07973 860669 Meet 09:50 Miserden, Carpenters Arms. Pub CP if using otherwise park considerably in road outside. (GL6 7JA) L163/E179 SO937088 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/yavaedm3](https://tinyurl.com/yavaedm3)

**Sat 24 Mar Pin back your ears Moderate 5.5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Sapperton Tunnel Portal, Sapperton village, Dorval Wood, Pinbury Park and follow paths through woods to visit Daneway bands and Siccaridge Wood. **Leaders - Tim S and Ann T** 01242 530734 on day 07931 683162 Meet 09:50 Daneway Inn Car Park. Park tightly in CP if eating or drinking or in small space over the bridge. (GL7 6LN) L162/E179 SO939034 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/ya5eoc6w](https://tinyurl.com/ya5eoc6w)

**Wed 28 Mar Badminton, Bunker and Airfield Moderate 5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 We walk west from Badminton to the escarpment above Horton passing an abandoned nuclear bunker and returning via the Badminton landing strip. Terrain 0 Level. Need to cross A46 twice with care. Some road walking. **Leader - Derek T** 01454 218691 on day 07711 445395 Meet 09:50 Badminton village, car share if possible and park considerably. Meet outside PO on High Street. (GL9 1DF) L167/E168 ST803826 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/y8843ejf](https://tinyurl.com/y8843ejf)

**Sat 31 Mar Woods, Valleys and Hills Moderate 8m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 14:30 Stinchcombe Golf Course, Hermitage Wood, Bowcot Farm, Laycombe Wood, Waterley Bottom and Breakheart Hill. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Steep in places. Bring a picnic. **Leader - Allen M** 01453 545588 on day 07780 356483 Meet 09:50 Stinchcombe Hill Public Car Park (not Golf Course CP). (GL11 6AQ) L162/E167 ST743983 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/ycamg9jf](https://tinyurl.com/ycamg9jf)

**Mon 2 Apr Over the fields & not that far away Leisurely 3.8m**  
Start 10:30 Est finish 12:45 From Wotton-under-Edge across fields and past farms to Kingswood, alongside a stream, and over more fields, some woodland and back to Wotton. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. **Leader - Colin (Kingswood)** 01453 843716 on day 07525 453911 Meet 10:20 Wotton-u-Edge, Royal Oak, Haw St. Park at top end of CP if eating and pre-book snack or meal. If not, nearby Chipping CP or in town (GL12 7AP) L162/E167 ST755933 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/ybc5nv8d](https://tinyurl.com/ybc5nv8d)

**Wed 4 Apr Hillfort and Mills Moderate 5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Steep climb to Uley Bury and down. Through fields past old mills and Owlpen Manor. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Lunch at Old Crown Inn. Pre-Book before walk. **Leader - Colin (Amberley)** 01453 872349 on day 07717 317510 Meet 09:50 Uley, outside Old Crown. Park on road by Church or use pub car park at rear if visiting afterwards. (GL11 5SN) L162/E168 ST791986 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/ybsb94w8](https://tinyurl.com/ybsb94w8)

# South Cotswold Ramblers

## Our Walks Programme

### 7th April to 3rd May 2018



**Sat 7 Apr Coaley to the Peak and back Moderate 8m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 14:00 Across fields via Frocester to Leonard Stanley then up to Coaley Peak through Coaley wood and back via Far Green. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Take a picnic. **Leaders - Peter and Sue** 01453 860797 on day 07854 634090 Meet 09:50 Coaley Church, please park considerably in village, or in CP behind village hall - not in front of hall. (GL11 5EF) L162/E167 SO771016 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/ydxzyr39](https://tinyurl.com/ydxzyr39)

**Wed 11 Apr Virgin's Corner Moderate 5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Whitley Wood, Bowcote Wood, back via Rockstowes. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Field and woodland paths, may be muddy. Lunch available at Old Crown pub. Please pre-book food. **Leaders - Peter and Sue** 01453 860797 on day 07854 634090 Meet 09:50 Uley, Old Crown. Park on road by Church or use pub CP if visiting. (GL11 5SN) L162/E168 ST792985 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/y9w35zs8](https://tinyurl.com/y9w35zs8)

#### PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF START POINT - NOW AVENING

**Sat 14 Apr Avening walk - in memory of Denys Moderate 5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 12:45 Longman's Barn, Longford's Farm, Bubblewell, Gatcombe, Steps Lane. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. **Leader - John G** 01452 728760 Meet 09:50 Park near church at Avening. (GL8 8NF) L162/E168 ST880980  
[Maps https://tinyurl.com/ybe53dj6](https://tinyurl.com/ybe53dj6)

**Mon 16 Apr A Beacon, Cromwell's Stone & Views Leisurely 4m**  
Start 10:30 Est finish 13:00 From Shortwood to Bird in Hand, Halliday's Wood, Cliff Well and along the Cotswold Way to Haresfield Beacon. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Mostly through woodland. Possible to drop down to Haresfield after finish of walk for lunch at the Haresfield Beacon and Railway Hotel. **Leader - Margaret** 01453 828036 on day 07930 396204 Meet 10:20 Shortwood NT CP (Cripplegate) ½ mile before Haresfield Beacon. (GL6 6PP) Display NT sticker, otherwise £3 for 4 hours. L162/E179 SO831086 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/yagqwkpm](https://tinyurl.com/yagqwkpm)

**Wed 18 Apr Keep taking the Pylls Moderate 6.7m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:30 Blackstable Wood, Sheepscombe, Highgrove, Painswick, Sheephouse, The Frith. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Woods and pasture, a little road walking. **Leaders - Jill and Sue** 01242 255994 on day 07815 786467 Meet 09:50 Bulls Cross layby B4070 above Slad. Park tightly. (GL6 7QT) L162/E179 SO877087 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/y98m76b8](https://tinyurl.com/y98m76b8)

**Sat 21 Apr Cambridge Backs Moderate 5.8m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:15 Following the river Cam then through woodland to Church End, Frampton-o-S, Splatt Bridge, towpath to bridge at Slimbridge, returning across fields. Terrain 0 Level at a gentle pace. Please order lunch before start. **Leaders - Ros and Ron** 01285 239054 on day 07917 808234 Meet 09:50 Cambridge, George Inn CP on A38. (GL2 7AL) L162/OL14 SO749038 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/y9yl77fb](https://tinyurl.com/y9yl77fb)

**Wed 25 Apr Tubular bells remembered Moderate 6.5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:30 Sudgrove, Thorougham. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Lunch available at Carpenter's Arms - order beforehand. **Leader - Olivia** 01453 751716 Meet 09:50 Miserden, outside Carpenters Arms. Only use pub car park if using pub after walk. If not eating at the pub, please park considerably in the road. (GL6 7JA) L163/E179 SO937088  
[Maps https://tinyurl.com/y6ul8kd5](https://tinyurl.com/y6ul8kd5)

**Thu 26 Apr Rodborough Parish Walk Moderate 3.5m**  
Start 18:30 Est finish 20:30 Short gently paced walk round Rodborough Common. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. **Leaders - Richard and Diana** 01453 762373 on day 07973 860669 Meet 18:20 Rodborough Pavilion CP. Go up from Golden Cross and straight across Rodborough Hill into Butterow West. (GL5 3UA) L162/E168 SO847044 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/yd524lpy](https://tinyurl.com/yd524lpy)

**Sat 28 Apr Bluebells or no Bluebells that is the question Moderate 10.8m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 15:30 A long but well paced stroll incorporating the Heart of England Way and Diamond Way. Taking in Blockley and Longborough and walking past Sezincote House. Terrain 2 Rolling terrain with one flight of steps. Packed Lunch. **Leader - Andrew** 01452 857958 on day 07900 390351 Meet 09:50 Bourton-on-the-Hill Village Hall (formerly the Old School). £2 per car. (GL56 9AF) SP175324 [Maps http://tinyurl.com/yc6c5hn4](https://tinyurl.com/yc6c5hn4)

**Mon 30 Apr Spring in Westonbirt Leisurely 4m**  
Start 10:30 Est finish 13:00 Past Westonbirt school and village into Willesley, then through Silk Wood. Back through the fields skirting the arboretum. Terrain 0 level. **Leader - John G** 01452 728760 Meet 10:20 Westonbirt narrow side road (going north to south, see OS map) linking Bowldown Road and A433 behind the Hare and Hounds Hotel. (GL8 8QL) L162/E168 ST861905 [Maps http://tinyurl.com/y9bg3fb6](https://tinyurl.com/y9bg3fb6)

**Wed 2 May Cricklade in Bloom (perhaps) Moderate 5.5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 12:45 A canal path, across fields, an old railway line, a saunter down Cricklade High St, and maybe see fritillaries too. Terrain 0 Level. Canal path can be very muddy. Towards the end of the walk we will pass pubs and cafes in Cricklade. The Red Lion is recommended. **Leader Janet W** 01793 752540 on day 07765 276534 Meet 09:50 Cricklade, North Meadow Nature Reserve. Park along lane near the entrance. Leave the A419 at Cricklade, drive down Cricklade High St. When out of the town, take a left fork onto a narrow lane which is just before the road rejoins the A419. The entrance to North Meadow is approx. 200 yards along this lane. (SN6 6DH) SU096949 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/yblg78lj](https://tinyurl.com/yblg78lj)

**Thu 3 May Around Nailsworth Moderate 3.8m**  
Start 18:30 Est finish 20:30 A wander around the footpaths above Nailsworth. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. An initial climb but then either flat or downhill. Food at Egypt Mill, please pre-order. **Leader - Ann A** 01453 839089 on day 07931 114439 Meet 18:20 Nailsworth, Egypt Mill CP, park far side. (GL6 0AN) L162/E168 ST850998 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/ydg4rs87](https://tinyurl.com/ydg4rs87)

## Our Walks Programme - 5th to 31st May 2018

**Sat 5 May Tyndale Monument, North Nibley Moderate 8m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 15:00 via Stinchcombe Hill Golf Club, North Nibley, Tyndale Monument, Nibley Lane, Frog Lane, Snitend Bridge, Stinchcombe Hill. Terrain 3 Quite hilly and strenuous. Bring a picnic. **Leaders - Alan and Fiona** 01453 541982 on day 07817 560353 Meet 09:50 Kingshill pub. Kingshill Road, Dursley. Park opposite the parade of shops on Kingshill Road. (GL11 4EJ) L162/E167 ST751989 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/y96eacdn>

**Mon 7 May Mellow Yellow Meander Leisurely 4m**  
Start 10:30 Est finish 13:00 Bownham, Rodborough common, Amberley. Terrain 1 undulating, mainly flat lanes and common. An easy paced "Start The Week" walk. Pub lunch available and can be pre-booked. **Leaders - Brian and Sheelagh** 01453 872220 on day 07749 931449 Meet 10:20 Minchinhampton Common Old Lodge Inn. Park nearby on common. (GL6 9AQ) L162/E168 SO853008 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/y8I58q3x>

**Wed 9 May Jolly Nice Jaunt Moderate 5.5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Frampton Mansell. Chalford. Arable land, woodland, canal, hillside. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Burgers, pulled pork rolls etc can be ordered before walk and coffee bought before or after the walk. **Leaders - Brian and Sheelagh** 01453 872220 on day 07749 931449 Meet 09:50 Jolly Nice on A419 south of Frampton Mansell (GL6 8HU) parking tightly in the back car park. L163/E168 SO921017 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/ybms7olm>

**Thu 10 May Fortitude Ways Moderate 3.8m**  
Start 18:30 Est finish 20:30 Gloucestershire Way to Little Shurdington, Cotswold Way back. One descent, one ascent, hopefully good views. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Food available at the Air Balloon if required. **Leaders - Sally and Keith** 01453 872729 on day 07818 425088 Meet 18:20 Crickley Hill Country Park CP (not National Trust). Follow signed track off Leckhampton Hill near Air Balloon roundabout. (GL3 4UQ) L163/E179 SO928162 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/y8s5w6ss>

**Sat 12 May What the well dressed well is wearing Moderate 7.3m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 14:30 Bisley, Sudgrove, Famish Hill, Camp, The Dillay, Sydenhams. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Picnic. **Leaders - Jill and Sue** 01242 255994 on day 07815 786467 Meet 09:50 Bisley, Windyridge layby Cheltenham Rd. (GL6 7BJ) L163/E179 SO903063 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/yc3d2vgq>

**Wed 16 May Saracens on Marlborough Downs Moderate 11m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 16:00 An eclectic mix of stone age, bronze age and Saracens. Far reaching views in all directions. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. mainly on stone tracks. Exposed route with little shelter, can be shortened if necessary. Bring a packed lunch. **Leader - Franceska** 07582 372711 Meet 09:50 Barbury Castle Country Park main CP (free with toilets). (SN4 0QH) E157. Bypass Swindon on A419 to M4 J15. Continue S on A346. After 1 mile turn R Chiseldon. After 800 yds turn R for 500 yds, then turn L (westwards). After 1.5m road at T junction, turn L, and travel S for 2.5m. The last 500 yds ascends a steep hill to road end at CP. ALERT Use maps as another CP 0.6m to SW, with no road between CPs. (SN4 0QH) L173/E157 SU157760 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/ybthz88c>

**Thu 17 May Pheasants, sheep and horses Moderate 3.5m**  
Start 18:30 Est finish 20:15 Ozleworth Church and Park, Marlees Brook, Ozleworth Bottom, Newark Park. Some marshy

and wet footpaths. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. **Leader - Neil** 01453 766755 on day 07974 416017 Meet 18:20 National Trust Newark Park CP, Ozleworth, follow the brown signs for Newark Park from the A46 at Calcot or from Wotton coming past the Cotswold Edge golf club. Parking £3 but NT members free. Car park has toilets and is open until dusk. (GL12 7QD) L162/E167 ST780932 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/ybnvwrfs>

**Sat 19 May Lakes, Rivers, Iron Age Settlements Moderate 8.2m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 14:30 Early coffee stop at a GWT cafe and visitor centre. After about 8 miles there is an option to extend the walk to Clapton on the Hill (total 10.6m). Since Bourton is flat as a pancake, the walking pace will exceed 2 mph. Bring a picnic. **Leader - Bruno** 01451 822465 Meet 09:50 Entering Bourton by Lansdowne Road take 1st R. to British Legion CP (£3 per car). (GL54 2FJ) L163/OL45 SP165208 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/ybmt42v4>

**Mon 21 May An easy walk near the Severn Leisurely 4m**  
Start 10:30 Est finish 12:45 A circular walk in the Berkeley Vale. Terrain 0 Mainly level. **Leader - Ray C** 01453 811545 Meet 10:20 Laburnum Cottage, Brookend, Berkeley. Car parking is in my garden at the rear of the house. (GL13 9SF) L162/E167 SO685020 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/y7cm4ksq>

**Wed 23 May Wild Flowers of Kilkenny Moderate 5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Enjoy the sun on wild flowers and rolling hills, from Kilkenny, through St. Paul's Epistle, Foxcote and Shill Hill. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Kilkenny Inn is nearby. **Leader - Graham B** 01452 725405 Meet 09:50 Kilkenny Viewpoint CP, off A436, quarter mile before Kilkenny Inn. (GL54 4LT) L163/OL45 SP004186 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/y77wgul6>

**Thu 24 May Walk around Uley Moderate 3.5m**  
Start 18:30 Est finish 20:15 Angeston Grange, Rockstowes, Stouts Hill. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Possible pub meal at end. **Leaders - Steve and Rosemary** 01453 860130 Meet 18:20 Outside Old Crown, Uley. Park on road by Church or use pub car park if visiting afterwards. (GL11 5SN) L162/E168 ST791986 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/ya6rf373>

**Sat 26 May Worth going to the Edge and back Moderate 7m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:45 Past Pinbury Park to Edgeworth and Daneway Bank. Through Siccaridge Wood and back along the canal. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Bring a packed lunch. **Leader - Colin B (Amberley)** 01453 872349 on day 07717 317510 Meet 09:50 Sapperton village, near Church. (GL7 6LG) L163/E179 SO947033 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/y9dd9nc0>

**Wed 30 May Toxophilite territory Moderate 6.3m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:15 Chedworth Airfield, Withington Woods, Casey Compton, Chedworth Roman Villa. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Lunch available at Mill at Withington or Chedworth Farm Shop. **Leaders - Jill and Sue** 01242 255994 on day 07815 786467 Meet 09:50 Chedworth Old Airfield. (GL54 4NX) L163/OL45 SP039131 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/ydh4x9df>

**Thu 31 May Rodborough Parish Walk Moderate 4m**  
Start 18:30 Est finish 21:00 Butterow and Minchinhampton Common calling at Bear Inn. Terrain 2 Hilly / level mix. **Leaders - Richard and Diana** 01453 762373 on day 07973 860669 Meet 18:20 Rodborough Pavilion CP. Go uphill from Golden Cross, straight across Rodborough Hill into Butterow West (GL5 3UA) L162/E168 SO847044 **Maps** <https://tinyurl.com/ya8lfacr>



## Our Walks Programme - 2nd to 30th June 2018

**Sat 2 Jun A Bit of Recycling Moderate 5.5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 From Nailsworth up to Shiptons Grave Lane, Ledgemore Bottom, out to Tippits and back through Ruskin Mill Gardens. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. One significant climb at start otherwise flat or downhill. Food available on return. **Leader - Ann A** 01453 839089 on day 07931 114439 Meet 09:50 Nailsworth Garden Centre CP near entrance, Avening Road. (GL6 OBS) L162/E168 ST854995 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/y9xyreos](https://tinyurl.com/y9xyreos)

**Mon 4 Jun Shaded woods and sunny views Leisurely 3.4m**  
Start 10:30 Est finish 12:45 A climb at an easy pace, then through Conygre Woods and along to Coombe Hill with splendid views. Then down to Coombe, level walk to Dyers Brook Lake (pond) on to Hollywell, Marchesi Walk and back up to CP. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. **Leader - Chris L** 01453 842298 on day 07749 277921 Meet 10:20 Wotton-under-Edge, Auction Rooms CP. Go up Tabernacle Pitch and just past the graveyard turn right. You will see two drives, so take the left narrower one to emerge into a large CP. (GL12 7EF) L162/E167 ST75559350 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/y9xuoxnh](https://tinyurl.com/y9xuoxnh)

**Wed 6 Jun Painswick Happy Wanderer Moderate 9m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 15:00 Via Painwick Beacon, Cud Hill, Huddinknoll Hill, Edge, Pitchcombe Woods, Sheephouse. Terrain 2 hilly and level mix. Picnic. **Leader - John G** 01452 728760 Meet 09:50 Painswick Walkers CP, off B4073 (GL6 6RR) L162/E179 SO866104 [Maps http://tinyurl.com/yabo8846](http://tinyurl.com/yabo8846)

**Thu 7 Jun Cambridge but no boat race Moderate 4.5m**  
Start 18:30 Est finish 21:00 Through oak wood and back along the Severn Way. Terrain 0 Level and easy paced. Food available at end if required. Pre-book before starting walk. **Leader - Enid** 01242 863283 on day 07570 789317 Meet 18:20 Cambridge, George Inn CP on A38. (GL2 7AL) L162/OL14 SO749038 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/yd3phd5r](https://tinyurl.com/yd3phd5r)

**Sat 9 Jun Ash to Ash Moderate 6.5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:15 Caudle Green. Brimpsfield. Climperwell. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Lunch available at end. **Leaders - Brian and Sheelagh** 01453 872220 on day 07749 931449 Meet 09:50 Foston's Ash CP, park tightly at end. (GL6 7ES) L163/E179 SO914114 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/y9vfszld](https://tinyurl.com/y9vfszld)

**Wed 13 Jun Icomb, Youcome, Wecome Moderate 8m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 15:00 Oxfordshire and Diamond Ways to Icomb via Wyck Rissington. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Bring a picnic. **Leaders - Sally and Ros** 01453 872729 / 01285 239054 on day 07818 425088 Meet 09:50 Bourton-on-the-Water, Rissington Road CP (just past Birdland) (GL54 2FB). Was £3.90. L163/OL45 SP171202 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/yc84xsg3](https://tinyurl.com/yc84xsg3)

**Thu 14 Jun Stroudwater Canamble Moderate 4m**  
Start 18:30 Est finish 20:30 via Hilly Orchard, Wallbridge, Bowbridge, Capels Mill, Frome Banks, cycle track to Dudbridge. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. **Leader - Tim C** 01453 757104 Meet 18:20 Cainscross CP entrance opposite Tricorn House, park at top end. (GL5 4JH) L162/E168 SO834051 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/ybmhqwed](https://tinyurl.com/ybmhqwed)

**Sat 16 Jun Along the Evenlode river Moderate 12m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 16:30 Bledington, Lyneham, Shipton under Wychwood, Ascott under Wychwood, Bould. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Bring a picnic. **Leader - Graham W**

01453 885408 on day 07977 863592 Meet 09:50 Bledington near the King's Head by the green. (OX7 6XQ) L173/E156 SP244227 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/y8veth3y](https://tinyurl.com/y8veth3y)

**Mon 18 Jun There may be yew trees Leisurely 4m**  
Start 10:30 Est finish 12:45 A repeat of an autumn walk through Hailey Wood and maybe this time we will find the elusive avenue of yews! A circular walk through the wood, branching out to Tarlton with open views. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Pre-book lunch at the Tunnel House Inn. **Leader - Sheila L** 01453 757295 on day 07972 904325 Meet 10:20 Tunnel House Inn, (turn off Coates to Tarlton road). (GL7 6PW) E168/L163 SO965006 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/y74pkwzt](https://tinyurl.com/y74pkwzt)

**Wed 20 Jun Both sides of the Uley Dursley Valley Moderate 5.5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Low level path towards Dursley then across to the other side and back through the woods. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Food available at The Old Crown, please pre-order. **Leader - Ann A** 01453 839089 on day 07931 114439 Meet 09:50 Uley, Old Crown. Park on road by Church or use pub CP at rear if visiting afterwards. (GL11 5SN) L162/E168 ST792985 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/ya4mjfyx](https://tinyurl.com/ya4mjfyx)

**Thu 21 Jun A Dream of a Walk Moderate 4m**  
Start 18:30 Est finish 20:30 A Midsummer Night's walk via meadows and country lanes. Terrain 0 Mainly level. Food and drinks possible afterwards. **Leader - John G** 01452 728760 Meet 18:20 Tudor Arms Inn CP, Shepherds Patch. Strictly only if visiting Pub afterwards. Otherwise park considerably in road. (GL2 7BP) L162/OL14. SO727041 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/yc9krsof](https://tinyurl.com/yc9krsof)

**Sat 23 Jun Railways and Canal Moderate 10m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 16:30 Southstoke, Combe Down, Fox Hill, 2 miles in tunnel, Limestone Link and back to P&R. Terrain 3 Quite Hilly. Bring a picnic. **Leader - Graham W** 01453 885408 on day 07977 863592 Meet 09:50 Bath, Odd Down Park and Ride. (BA2 2SL) ST733616 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/yb4qa7lo](https://tinyurl.com/yb4qa7lo)

**Wed 27 Jun A Walk for Seven Sleepers Day Moderate 12m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 16:00 Over to Waterlane, down the Toadsmoor Valley and up the Chalford Valley. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Packed lunch. Ensure sufficient food for a long walk and plenty of water. **Leaders - Richard and Diana** 01453 762373 on day 07973 860669 Meet 09:50 Frampton Mansell. Turn off A419 nr Jolly Nice Cafe. Park on verge before village. (GL6 8JE) L163/E168 SO919022 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/ybvysak2](https://tinyurl.com/ybvysak2)

**Thu 28 Jun Rodborough Parish Walk Moderate 4.5m**  
Start 18:30 Est finish 20:45 Across the valley to Selsley. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. **Leaders - Richard and Diana** 01453 762373 on day 07973 860669 Meet 18:20 Rodborough Pavilion CP. Go up hill from Golden Cross and straight across Rodborough Hill into Butterow West. (GL5 3UA) L162/E168 SO847044 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/yaylc3f9](https://tinyurl.com/yaylc3f9)

**Sat 30 June Wildflowers or just leaves on Cleeve Moderate 8.5m**  
Start 10:00 Est finish 15:00 Steep climb up from Southam, circuit of Cleeve Common, then descent. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Bring a picnic. **Leaders - Sally and Keith** 01453 872729 on day 07818 425088 Meet 09:50 Prestbury War Memorial in High Street. Park in Idsall Drive car park (signposted) or on neighbouring street. (GL52 3AX) L163/OL45 SO972239 [Maps https://tinyurl.com/yaybjwuw](https://tinyurl.com/yaybjwuw)



### AGM Report

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2018 saw members from across Gloucestershire meet at Norton Village Hall for the 2017 Annual General Meeting. Gloucester Group kindly hosted the event, which celebrates our efforts for the period to end September 2017 and follows Group AGMs in November.

The AGM mixed formal and informal business.

GWGs 20-30s organise 2 walks per month. Peter Hillier gave a lively slide show of their activities.



In May Members joined a National 20-30s event in Edinburgh. Young Ramblers are going places!

### Dates for Diary

Fri-Sun 18-20 May 2018  
Winchcombe Walking Festival  
Why not meet us & our stand

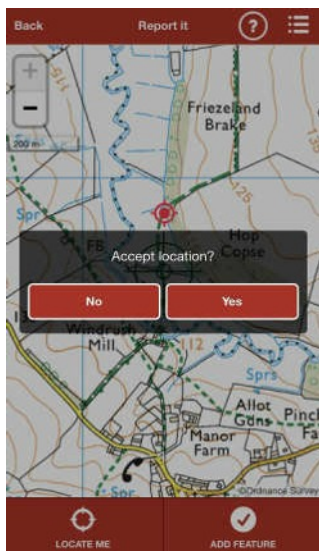
Wed 23 May 7:30pm  
GRArea Council Meeting  
Gloucester Room Premier Inn  
A38 Twigworth GL2 9PG

Sat 26 May - Sun 03 June 2018  
Ramblers Walk About Festival

- Walk more, live longer.
- Build more walking into your busy schedule.
- If you're taking your first steps, why not join a short health walk? Or if you're ready to step up, join a Ramblers group walk.
- Above all else-let's get active!

The talk was followed by a discussion of the 2017 Annual Report, membership numbers, publicity, finance and footpath issues.

Next Martin Thornley, Cleeve Group's Footpath Secretary, gave a brief presentation on 'How to report a footpath problem'. Most walkers realise that the Ramblers responds to footpath issues but everyone out walking can now help with reporting. Ramblers' members are able to download 'Pathwatch' (below left) to a mobile phone for free, or contact their local Group Footpath Secretary.

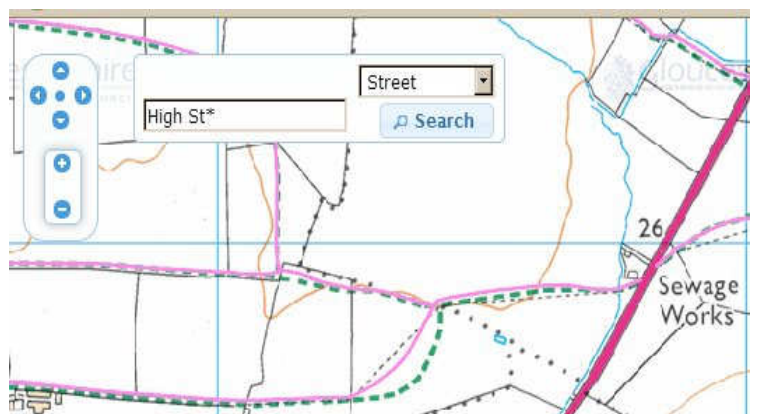


Another way to report issues is through Gloucestershire County Council website at [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-rights-of-way/public-rights-of-way/](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-rights-of-way/public-rights-of-way/)

First select a type of issue to report, select 'location', and zoom into the map. Eventually a representation of the definitive map is displayed overlaying Ordnance Survey paths and a footpath name/number.

A report can be completed whereupon a reference number is issued, to return to later.

Martin took questions from those present before the AGM moved onto rest of business



### Election of Officers

The AGM formal business concluded with election of officers for the next 12 months. We still have vacant posts such as Secretary, Publicity etc but hope to find a volunteer or two during the year.

Kate Ashbrook, Vice Chair, Ramblers Board of Trustees gave a short talk before the welcome bring and share lunch.



### AGM Walk to Wainlodes

It's become traditional for the guest speaker to join us on a short afternoon walk, and Kate Ashbrook followed suit by joining Derek Hughes, Chair of Gloucester Group, leading us on a circular route to Wainlodes.



We soon found a sign of our forebears. However what was supposed to be a straightforward walk became a game of spotting footpath issues. Heading towards Norton Church no waymark and no obvious path. Soon a sign which won't be too visible with the green shoots of spring. Time to test Pathwatch!

It was a clear day though and the River Severn didn't disappoint with views across to the Forest of Dean. The return journey found us passing Norton Village Green and its duck pond. Altogether a great day.

### Stowfield Bridge Update

Stowfield Bridge (or the Black Bridge), is an important connection across the River Wye at Lydbrook. It was used by over 20,000 walkers a year as part of the 136 mile Wye Valley Walk.

The bridge has been closed for some years now. Gloucestershire County Council and Herefordshire District Council have now produced a feasibility report with various schemes up to £1.4M for a full repair. Thanks to lobbying and public support from Wye Valley Tourism, Forest of Dean District Council and the Ramblers a plan has been agreed for the Wye Valley AONB to help the two authorities to prepare a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

### 2017-2018 Festival of Winter Walks

The beginning of the New Year invariably heralds an increase in people attending our walks. It's pleasing that some new walkers joined in having seen the promotion of the Festival.



The Footpath Maintenance Volunteers completed another section of the Wysis Way from Bisley on a very damp, misty day. Despite the gloomy weather an enjoyable time restoring parts of the Way



Over 50 Ramblers Areas get together form the Ramblers Association. Gloucestershire Ramblers Area includes eight Ramblers Groups and around a dozen affiliated Organisations and Clubs. Groups respond to footpath issues within their territory. A territory is reasonably aligned to Borough/District Council Boundaries:-

- North Cotswold - the northern half of Cotswold District, generally north of the A40.
- Cirencester – generally the southern half of Cotswold District except around Tetbury
- South Cotswold - mainly Stroud District, including Tetbury of Cotswold District
- Gloucester – Gloucester City plus nearby parts of Stroud District and southern Tewkesbury Borough
- Cleeve – Cheltenham Town plus northern Tewkesbury Borough
- Forest of Dean - all Forest of Dean District

Gloucestershire Walking Group GWG organises walks across the County for members of working age and has a 20-30s sub-group. Gloucestershire Area itself operates a get together mid week walks programme (see page 4) for any member. Most members join a Group but all are automatically a member of the Gloucestershire Ramblers Area.

Some Group News:-

Cirencester Group [www.cirencesterramblers.org.uk](http://www.cirencesterramblers.org.uk)



The Autumn period has again been very busy for the group with a variety of evening, mid week and weekend walks, all well attended. The mid week walks, a new venture for this group, have been very successful and usually finish at the pub!

Then 9<sup>th</sup> October saw 27 members and guests return to the Toorak hotel in Torquay to partake in walks, cider tasting and cream teas.

On 20<sup>th</sup> October 19 members and friends visited the Hook Norton Brewery. After a 5 mile walk they had lunch in the cafe and then were shown around the 19<sup>th</sup>C brewery, which makes craft beers in the Grade II listed building, where they still use some of the equipment dating back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The 43<sup>rd</sup> AGM was well attended on 19<sup>th</sup> November preceded by a walk and a bring and share lunch.

A new venue for our Christmas lunch on 26<sup>th</sup> November at the Corinium Court Hotel was excellent, with the earlier November date proving very popular. On 3<sup>rd</sup> December the trip to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard proved very popular as it was hosting a Christmas Market at the same time.

We received the following letter after a glorious sunny walk with Christopher Sommerville who then visited Waterstones book shop in Cirencester to promote paperback version of his book, The January Man.

"It's always a great pleasure to meet readers, and in particular the people who actually get out there, walk our footpaths, and work in different ways to keep them open. Congratulations and thanks, all of you, for your hard work and sometime tedious committee-ing - we wouldn't have a footpath network without you."

Pat Beckley

Cleeve Group [www.deeveramblers.org.uk](http://www.deeveramblers.org.uk)

Cleeve Group continue to function as an active walking group with a full programme of walks, which have seen attendance improving through participation mainly from visiting Ramblers Members and a few potential members "having a look". In the current programme we have completed 13 walks at an average of 7.5 miles with average attendance approaching 19 and numbers ranging from 10 to 29. We have lost 3 walks, 2 due to weather and 1 to flooding.

Our frequent General Committee Meetings (move from Bishops Cleeve Council Offices to Prestbury Library) have continued with the benefit of easy parking and a considerable saving in costs. All participants agree that it has been a good and sensible change of venue.



The Group AGM was well received and the change of format to during daylight hours at the weekend. A new volunteer John came forward to join our Footpaths Committee, who will hopefully be a welcome and knowledgeable addition in our efforts to protect, improve and maybe enlarge our share of the network.

Brian Payne





## A page of Mid Week walks for the Gloucestershire Ramblers Area

Gloucestershire Ramblers Area organises a programme of day walks of approx 10-12 miles long, usually mid-week, in the county & neighbouring counties. Why not give us a try (please contact leader beforehand). Once a member, all our walks are free! (Sorry Access dogs only but see walks at [www.fodramblers.org.uk](http://www.fodramblers.org.uk))

Wed 7 March 10:00 11 miles/17.7 km Mod The Malverns  
Meet 10am at Hollybush Car Park on the A438. E190, SO759369  
Moderate but hilly 11mile walk walking over the Herefordshire Beacon. Wonderful views on a clear day  
Catherine 01452 559924 or 07456 425880 on day

Wed 14 March 10:00 10 miles/16.1 km Moderate Bredon Hill  
Meet at Overbury Church, E190. Limited parking in the village. Please do not park at church as there is a service. (GL20 7NY, SO957374)  
The walk goes up to the Tower at the top, down to Elmley Castle then up and over to (almost) Grafton, Conderton and back to Overbury.  
Barry & Robert, 07407 359600 or 07807 342238 Picnic

Wed 21 March 10:00 11 miles/17.7 km Mod Cotswold B's into Worcs  
Meet Beckford Village Hall free CP. E190. (GL20 7AA, SO974358)  
Walk Conderton - Overbury village and then Park - up to Sundial Farm. Back down to Westmancote - Bredon for pub lunch/drink or picnic. PM - return via Kemerton Court.  
Guy, 01242 251412 or 07968 797186 on day.

Wed 28 March 10:00 10 miles/16.1 km Mod Clearwell & Newland Park at Clearwell Caves Car Park. OL14/LR162. (GL16 8JR, SO578083)  
A mixed walk with industrial archaeology, fine churches in hilly woodlands with field paths and green lanes. Picnic.  
David & Henrietta, 01452 302024 or 07831 234790 on day.

Wed 4 April 10:00 11m/17.7km Mod Wye Valley walk -Cathedral Bigsweir woods car park on left after Mork. OL14. (GL15 6QG, SO543055) A lovely walk through oak woodland and along the tops of the Wye Valley to visit the Cathedral of the Forest, Picnic lunch.  
Lynn, 01291 689954 or 07957 662209 on day

Wed 11 April 10:00 10m/16.1km Mod Bronze Age Cairns Shepherd Meet Park Drive Llangatock, OL13. (NP8 1PA, SO212178)  
Scenic ascent to the Craig y Cilau Twr Pen-Cyrrn bronze age cairns and the Lonely Shepherd, then returning through woodland. Picnic.  
Pete & Jenny, 01600 715719 or 07455 257262 on day

Wed 18 April 10:00 10 miles/16.1 km Moderate Stretton on Fosse Park at Stretton on Fosse Village Hall. OL45. (GL56 9SE, SP223382)  
Stretton on Fosse circular via Ebrington. Picnic or possible pub stop.  
Martin 07790 437908

Wed 25 April 10:00 12 miles/19.3 km Strenuous Redbrook Redbrook car park (charge) OL14 (NP25 4LR, SO536098)  
Clearwell onto St Briavels via bridleways and country lanes before dropping down into the Wye Valley. Offa's Dyke, Redbrook.  
Jackie, 01594 564417 or 07767 351190 on day Picnic lunch coffee.

Moderate - a good level of fitness. May include some steep paths and open country, and may be at a brisk pace.  
Strenuous - above average fitness level. May include hills and rough country, and may be at a brisk pace.

Wed 2 May 10:00 10 miles/16.1 km Moderate Minchinhampton  
Meet CP by reservoir on Minchinhampton Common. E168. (GL5 2PP, SO855013) A route around Minchinhampton and Nailsworth.  
Andy & Wendy, 01453 885498 Picnic.

Wed 9 May 10:00 10miles/16.1km Mod Garway Hill & Herefordshire Trail Park by the side of Garway Common, off minor road to south of pub. E189/LR149. (HR2 8RF, SO466225)  
An undulating walk with a climb up to and around Garway Hill returning past Kentchurch and taking in parts of the Herefordshire trail.  
Susanne, 01453 757212 or 07587 713668 on day. Picnic.

Wed 16 May 10:00 10miles/16.1km Mod A Springtime Forest Wander Meet Fedw Wood forestry commission CP, off minor road between St Arvans and Devauden. OL14. (NP16 6HJ, ST505984) Walk through Ravensnest wood, along Anglidi stream, fields & wood to Cobbler's Plain. Return via Great House, past Kilgwrwg & through Chepstow Park Wood.  
Susanne, 01453 757212 or 07587 713668 on day. Picnic.

----- New walks welcome for July-October programme -----

Wed 23 May 10:00 10 miles/16.1 km Mod Monnow Valley and Cats Back Meet Black Hill Picnic Ste. OL13. (HR2 0NL, SO288328) A walk through some of the farms and drover's roads of the Monnow Valley then picking up Offa's Dyke path and returning along Black Hill and the Cats Back. A varied walk with panoramic views over Herefordshire if visibility is good.  
Pete & Jenny, 01600 715719 or 07455 257262 on day Picnic.

Wed 30 May 10:00 10 miles/16.1 km Mod Bulls Cross & Cranham Meet Bulls Cross, large lay-by on B4070 1m north of Sad. E179. GL6 7QS SO877086  
Walk Bulls Cross, Saltridge Hill and Cranham. Usual ups and downs, stiles etc but hopefully not much mud at this time of year.  
Hilary 01453 753398 Picnic lunch.

Wed 6 June 10:00 10 miles/16.1 km Mod Kingscote Park at the back of Hunters Hall pub car park. E168 GL8 8YA ST814960  
A walk to Binley Farm, Nupend, Wallow Green, Nailsworth, Horsley, Hazecote Farm, Lasborough and Hay Bottom. Picnic lunch with drinks/food available at pub afterwards.  
Dave 01452 721792 or 07593 296983 on day

Wed 13 June 10:00 11 miles/17.7 km Moderate "The Golden Valley"  
Meet at Cowcombe Hill layby opposite Aston Down airfield. E168. (GL6 8HR, SO910019) Walk Hyde, Rack Hill at Chalford, Ashmead Wood, Strawberry Banks, Ile's Green, Scarridge Wood, Daneway, Sapperton and Frampton Woods, returning via Astley Farm. Bring a picnic.  
Bruno, 01451 822465

Wed 20 June 10:00 10.5 miles/16.9 km Mod Axbridge and Crook Peak Meet at Winscombe Hill car park. Limited spaces so please share cars. E141. (BS25 1NW, ST422561)  
A moderate Mendips walk with two climbs. Includes Cheddar Reservoir and a walk through a tunnelled section of the Strawberry Line. Picnic.  
Mick, 01453 542082 or 07443 643462 on day

Wed 27 June 10:00 10 miles/16.1 km Moderate Painswick Starnages Lane Car Park (£2.30 all day pay & display). E179. (GL6 6UU, SO865095) Starting in Painswick we will head over the ridge towards Sad, returning via the Painswick Stream. Picnic lunch.  
Sue L, 01452 741229 or 07808 116725 on day

Walking boots and warm, waterproof clothing are essential.  
If in doubt about fitness please contact the walk leader beforehand.