

St. Ives Holiday 14 – 21 September

Saturday 14th

Most of us arrived late afternoon to find spacious and well-provisioned lodges, situated among trees on a very large site. Our evening meal was at the on-site restaurant.



Sunday 15th



A fairly long drive to our first walk, led by Richard. Went along the coast path, lots of uneven steps, up and down, hard on the knees. Plenty of choice of cafes at the Lizard, before passing the old Lloyds Shipping Station perched on top of cliffs with a long launch ramp. Later on we passed the new lifeboat station, also having a long ramp.



Three of our ladies, all somewhat incapacitated, did their own thing and met us at the Lizard for lunch. Our first evening meal was at a local pub, The Watermill. The wheel was in working order and had been built around, so it was actually inside the pub.

Monday 16th

Another lengthy drive to Portreath to begin walk. An uphill start to reach the coast path where we met a chap taking photos of a seal pup far down below in the foam, very difficult to see. Sally got a nice picture of a white plastic object bobbing up and down on the tide! Soon after we saw 3 choughs frolicking in a field. (Alas, not chuff-chuffs!). We continued through woods and ate our lunches sat on a large fallen tree trunk. Passing close to a golf course, Brian R failed to make an impression with some ladies waiting to drive! Back at Portreath we enjoyed some nice Cornish ice creams.

The 3 “Walking Wounded” enjoyed a trip to ‘Cornish Gold’, an old tin mine.

Our evening meal was at another pub. Doug used his Satnav successfully and got us there as a mist had developed.

Tuesday 17th

Approximately 15 minute walk to catch the bus to start of walk at Marazion with St. Michael’s Mount across the water. Time for a brief look round and a chat to a coachload of German tourists. Walked through fields, tracks and quiet lanes. We ate our lunches higher up, sat in a field with a good view of the Mount. Similar terrain in the afternoon



as we walked back to Base Camp. Two of our ladies visited Trengwainton Gardens, a National Trust site near Penzance.

Our evening meal was at a restaurant nearer base but a bit noisy.

Wednesday 18th – Free Day

Di, Richard and I went to St. Ives by train. We had coffee and a look round – memories of holidays there for Di and me with our parents. From one of these I have a snap of Joe Grimond driving along the front on an election campaign. We then went to Asda to shop for the evening's in-house buffet then back to prepare it. Meanwhile, Janet had arrived. We all had a very convivial evening.

Thursday 19th

Today we split into 2 groups for long and medium walks. The medium group, led by Sue, took us along the coast path before going inland over fields and again, lots of stiles. The coast path here was very hard going, lots of rocks and boulders to clamber over. (In my opinion, not fit to be called a path!). Also many of the stiles were badly maintained.

The other group, led by Ann, did about 11 miles to and from Zennor, mostly on the coast. Unfortunately they missed the last bus back and had to get a taxi! This evening we ate at Birdie's Bistro near Hayle, another lovely meal and evening.



Friday 20th

As your scribe's knees were suffering after yesterday's assault course, I took the train to Penzance, as, despite having had holidays at St. Ives, I'd never got that far. The station is quite impressive, with 4 long platforms, obviously built for the very popular trains of holidaymakers of times past. It also has an overall roof, akin to Temple Meads in Bristol, but only about 2-3 carriage lengths. Again, from here a good view of St. Michael's Mount. Very pleased to be on level ground, I walked about 6 -7 miles round the bay, taking in a nice Cornish cream tea and a look at a working dry dock. I finished up at the vast fishing harbour at Newlyn, the houses built in the hillside across the bay. I chatted to a chap preparing floats on a net line. He was now only able to work on land, after an accident. He was a Scot, a boat chef, and related how difficult it was to prepare and eat food while at sea. As I watched a trawler leave the harbour, being buffeted by the waves, I could see what he meant. Walked back to station and train back to St. Erth and walked to the camp.

For our last meal of the holiday, we returned to the Watermill.

Our grateful thanks to Ann for organising such a lovely holiday.

Tim C

While Tim enjoyed himself in Penzance, the rest of us went to Lamorna Cove on the South coast and did a 5 mile walk to St. Loy's Cove, then back across the fields passing the Merry Maidens stone circle. *Sally*



Future Holidays - update from Ann

Catalonia Holiday 18/3/20 return 25/3/2020

There are still places available for this holiday, £699 per person with no single supplement. Details in last newsletter but please contact me if you have any questions or want to book on.

Website for holiday details: <https://www.preferredts.com/holiday/catalonia-trails-rails/>

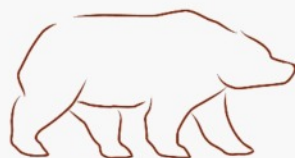
Polperro Holiday Sept 12th 2020

Given the success of our DIY holiday to St Ives I am planning another one to south Cornwall staying near Polperro, this will be on Sept 12th for 7 nights staying on another of John Fowler's sites at Killigarth Manor. I have already booked lodges for the 14 people who have already decided to come but there are still some available at £379.05 per lodge (this includes a 5% discount as I am a returning customer). I am booking Silver Lodges but will give you the web link to the accommodation available on the dates we are going in case you would prefer an alternative. We will be doing our own walks again and I plan to go down beforehand to walk them over but there is no obligation to do all the walks, if you prefer to sightsee, as you are only paying for the accommodation . Please let me know ASAP if you wish to come as these lodges book up quickly and do contact me if you have any queries.

<https://www.johnfowlerholidays.com/search/sc/2020-09-12/7/3>



All photos from www.johnfowlerholiday.com



THE BEAR OF RODBOROUGH HOTEL

Saturday 15 February 2020 12.30 for 1pm

(In the Terrace Room)

Starters

Oven roasted root vegetable soup, herb croutons

Chicken liver and brandy parfait, caramelised onion chutney, onion bread

Baked brie and cranberry filo parcels, spiced tomato coulis

Goat's cheese, red onion tart, rocket parmesan salad

Smoked salmon, dill crème fraîche and capers

Main course

Handmade burger, crispy bacon, buffalo tomato, red onion, Monterey Jack toasted brioche

Falafel and spinach burger, baby gem, red pepper hummus, sweet potato fries

Traditional roast turkey, duck fat roast potatoes, sage and apricot stuffing, turkey jus

Roast loin of pork, apple mash, kale, spiced apple sauce

Pan fried fillet of hake, crushed new potatoes, wilted spinach, curried coconut sauce

Rustic butter bean cassoulet, mixed herb dumplings

Dessert

Raspberry frangipane tart, sweetened almond milk

Chocolate and coconut tart, raspberry sorbet

Traditional Christmas pudding, brandy sauce

Selection of local Winstone's ice cream

Cotswold cheese and biscuits, plum chutney, celery and grapes.

Tea or coffee with mince pies

£25.70 per person Booking arrangements on p.5

GROUP VOLUNTEERS 2019/20

Chairman:

Richard 01453 762373
chairman@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

Vice Chairman:

Mike 01453 873625
mike@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

Group Secretary:

Andrew 01452 857958
groupsecretary@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

Group Treasurer:

Brian W 01453 872220
treasurer@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

Membership Secretary:

Mike 01453 873625
membership@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

Publicity Officer:

Vacant

Without portfolio:

Diana

Website: Mike & Sally

website@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

South Cots Newsletter: Sally

newsletter@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

Footpath Chairman and Footpath Secretary:

Bob 01453 545752
footpaths@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

Footpath Committee Minutes Secretary:

John C 01453 845574
footpaths@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

Footpath Clearance

Bob

Footpath Committee Member:

Penny F

Led Walks Programme Co-ordinator:

Mike 01453 873625
mike@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

IMPORTANT —PAYMENT FOR ANNUAL LUNCH

As some of you will remember from last year, the bank now charges us a small fee (which we will have to pass on to you) for those members who pay by cheque, as opposed to those who do a direct bank transfer. I have provided 2 different sets of instructions below for ordering and paying, depending on which method you use. Any problems, contact me, Sally, sally@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk 01453 872729

ACTION IF PAYING BY BANK TRANSFER

1) By 25 November

Transfer £25.70 per person to account

Unity Bank

Account number: 20240918.

Bank sort code: 608301.

**Account name: South Cotswold
Ramblers Holiday Account.**

Reference: YOUR NAME lunch

Use your NAME AS A REFERENCE (otherwise I won't know who has paid). **At the same time, email me sally@southcotswoldramblers.org to say you have paid.**

2)By 31 December email me your food choices

You can use my hotmail email instead if you prefer

ACTION IF PAYING BY CHEQUE

By 25 November

Complete the rest of this form and post it to Sally, 23 Bownham Park, Rodborough Common, Stroud, GL5 5BY with a **cheque payable to South Cotswold Ramblers for £25.70 per person +30p for bank charge.**

Names of
diners.....

Telephone no/Email
address.....

Your choices of food (please make it clear who is having what , if more than one person)

WALK INTO

SUMMER 2020

At Ramblers Walking Holidays our experienced leaders will guide you across the **UK, Europe** and **Worldwide**. And with **easy** to **challenging** walking grades to choose from, there really is a **pace and place for everyone**.

**NEW
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tour leader, most meals + free
wine on selected holidays*

*Exceptions apply, see website for
more details.

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- ✓ SMALL GROUPS
- ✓ EXPERIENCED LEADERS
- ✓ RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

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ramblersholidays.co.uk



ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS

The next concert will be on 30 November 2019 at 7.30pm at Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Rd., Stroud, Gloucestershire (next to the General Hospital)

Programme

Greig: Peer Gynt Suite No. 1

Mendelssohn: Piano Concerto No. 1 (Soloist: Katya Apekiheva)

Neilsen: Symphony No. 4

Listen to extracts at 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 Subscription Room Ticket Agency 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 30 November 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:.....

Thanks to all of you who sponsored my swim for Maggie's centre. We raised £3,000.00 in total. *Olivia*

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.

ALL AGM STUFF IS ON PAGE 10 ONWARDS.

AGM SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2019 AT RODBOROUGH TABERNACLE STARTING AT 1pm.

OFFERS OF CAKES PLEASE TO HEATHER ON 01453 873625.

Stroud Leisure Centre problem as a starting place – Leaders please note

On Alex's Saturday walk in September which started from Stroud Leisure Centre it was almost impossible to park as there was a run in Stratford Park and virtually all the parking spaces were taken by runners. 2 South Cots who resorted to parking on the grass verge were given parking tickets (though 1 of them appealed on the grounds that there was no notice to say not to park on the grass). Parkrun's website says that there will be a Parkrun there every Saturday at 9am. Leaders might want to avoid this as a starting place on Saturdays, though it is still fine for Mondays and Wednesdays.

Membership Report Spring 2019

I have welcomed another six new members since the summer. We now have 385 members, and thank all of you for your support for the charity. We are pleased to see about 150 of our members on Group walks (but not all at once!).

This month I have received new Ramblers' membership leaflets and am bringing them on walks. Do ask me for a copy to offer to your friends if you think they might be interested in keeping fit, making friends and seeing our wonderful countryside with the group!

Mike

Membership secretary

membership@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

What 3 Words

Now you only need three words to quickly refer to any exact location – an building entrance, station exit, picnic spot or parking space. Use the free what3words app.

Every 3m x3m square in the world has a 3 word address. You can easily navigate to precise locations.

Simply say three words to search for and navigate to any precise destination with what3words Voice Input. It's much faster than entering a street address and postcode and certainly than using grid references. It might help you find your car in a car park!

Available on the App store or Google Play

Have you got a whistle? Do you carry it on walks?
It could save you and others from getting separated from the rest of the group

If you wish to put anything in the next newsletter (which goes out in February), please email it to *Sally* at newsletter@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk by January 5th.

Rambling Ricochets

No brick-bats about tittle-tattle please, but at the out-set of a South Cots. get-together, the hoity-toity, lardy-dardy main-man spouted flim-flam and wishy-washy

mumbo-jumbo about the walk's razzle-dazzle but left out know-how about the nitty-

gritty. After the pow-wow, the silly-billy set-off full-tilt, down-hill helter-skelter

falling head-long, topsy-turvey, roly-poly into a ha-ha. Later on, the rag-bag tail-end

watched chiff-chaffs and creepy-crawlies till told not to shilly-shally and to pack-up

zig-zagging and pussy-footing, as though tip-toeing through a mine-field.

Rather than dilly-dally at the hurly-burly, usually laid-back Jo-Jo grabbed his knick-knacks and left to play ping-pong before tucking-up in jim-jams. I also gave the so-so mess-about short shrift, finished off my Hob-knobs, tic-tacs and Kit-kat, changed into flip-flops, played housey-housey then went to byes-byes.

Brian W

Three Ramblers (John G, Ron and Brian W) sent me information on a book called In Praise of Walking by Shane O'Mara. Here are 2 ideas that caught their attention:

Walking times axed for unfit ramblers

Hikers are not as fast or fit as they used to be, according to mapmakers.

The Ordnance Survey is abandoning a 127 year old formula used to estimate walking times because the "more diverse" range of modern ramblers cannot keep up. Instead it is offering "personalised" route guidance on its internet app-calibrated to age and fitness.

The old formula was created in 1892 by Scottish mountaineer William Naismith. He judged that walkers should allow one hour for each three miles plus another hour for each 2000ft of climb.

'Naismith's formula has worked as a rule of thumb but its based on what a fairly fit Victorian mountaineer who wants to walk long distances could do,' said Tim Newman of the OS.

It is probably not applicable to everyone because everyone has different levels of experience'.

'We are trying to make sure people pick something suitable for their level and are properly prepared. It will also give us an understanding of the British public and how they get outdoors'

Sophia Khan of The Ramblers welcomed the change but said Naismith rule was still a useful tool.

Provided by a friend of Ron's.

What makes us human? Author Shane O' Mara proposes a major candidate: BIPEDALISM.

Without bipedalism our ancestors would have found it impossible to hold a spear whilst tracking prey. Nor would we have been very efficient gatherers. Try picking blackberries on all fours.

More significantly we have the ability to walk side by side scanning the world around us whilst talking. Many great thinkers have recognised the benefits of walking. For Hippocrates it was the best "medicine" whilst Frederick Nietzsche wrote "only thoughts reached by walking have value".

Latest scientific studies suggest that walking can protect and repair organs, act on a break on the ageing of our brains and boost creativity.

Keep on walking!!!!

THE LOST BACK MARKER

In a previous newsletter I suggested guidelines for leaders and back markers, re: Tortoises and Hares. The main suggestion was that the leader should ALWAYS be aware of the whereabouts of the back marker, just in case there's a sudden left-turn disappearance into a hedge etc.

On a recent walk, as back marker, I was shepherding Cheryl (my wife) who was not feeling very well with chest pains and breathing difficulties, it being a hot day and going up an incline – the group strode on and disappeared out of sight. My constant whistle-blowing elicited no response and we became slower and slower in our pace. (The noise of the combine harvester didn't help.) We finally made it back by guesswork and no-one seemed to know we had been missing. When we got home her chest pains persisted and so we went to the doctors who saw us immediately and phoned A&E to admit her NOW!

It turns out she was having a heart attack

She was in hospital for two weeks and had a stent fitted into an artery in her heart and will not be out with the group for a while.

We were alone in unfamiliar countryside with nobody to assist or comfort her - if it had been more serious I hate to think of the consequences and dread to imagine what would happen in a future incident when someone is not so fortunate.

It is of paramount importance that if we are to take ourselves seriously as ramblers we should ALL look out for each other. Please look back occasionally and if you don't see the back marker then it may mean that someone is in difficulty.

Cheryl would like to thank everyone for their kindness, cards and good wishes and the warm welcome she received at Minchinhampton when we turned up on Jacqui's walk just to say hello.

We will see you all soon - John L

Invitation to our Annual General Meeting

September 2019

Dear Members,

We warmly invite you to the **South Cotswold Ramblers' Group ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** on Saturday 16 November 2019 to arrive at any time after 12:30 pm for the meeting at 1:00 pm at Rodborough Tabernacle, Tabernacle Walk, Rodborough, Stroud GL5 3UJ, Grid Reference SO 846039, (turn right off road leading up towards Rodborough Fort signed United Reformed Church and go downhill along Tabernacle Walk for 500 yards).
<http://tinyurl.com/mapRodboroughTab>

If you'd like a morning walk, Sally and Keith are leading a walk from there at 10:00 am.

At 12:30 pm you could bring a packed lunch and there will be tea or coffee and homemade cakes kindly provided by members also an opportunity to have a chat with other members.

All of you are most welcome.

At the meeting Reports and Plans are discussed. Then all committee members stand down and are eligible to seek re-election as officers or committee members. We look forward to welcoming new people too, and we will ask for nominations during the meeting. Posts will be as shown in last year's minutes overleaf.

After any other business at the end of the meeting there will be an open discussion, a chance for questions.

After the meeting there will be a talk given by a representative from Ramblers Worldwide Holidays.

Please do come. We look forward to seeing you.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Hawkins
Group Secretary (01452 857958)

SOUTH COTSWOLD RAMBLERS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 16 NOV 2019 @ 13:00

AGENDA

1. Welcome by the Group Chairman, Richard Davis.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Approval of the minutes of the 2018 AGM (see next page).
4. Matters arising not likely to be covered in reports below.
5. Consideration and adoption of the 2018 – 2019 Reports:
 - a) Chairman's Report
 - b) Footpath Chairman's Report
 - c) Treasurer's Report (available at the meeting or send a SAE to the Group Secretary)
6. Election of Officers and Committee Members (posts as last year, PTO)
7. Appointment of Honorary Auditor
8. Motions of which notice has been received by 31 August 2019
9. Any other business notice of which has been given in writing to the secretary prior to the meeting.

Following the formal meeting there will a discussion open to all members.

Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting of the South Cotswold Ramblers Group held on Saturday 17 November 2018 at the Rodborough Tabernacle, Tabernacle Walk, Rodborough, Stroud GL5 3UJ

Everyone was welcomed by the Chairman, Richard Davis.

1. **Present**

Richard Davis (Chairman), Mike Garner (Vice-Chairman), Andrew Hawkins (Secretary), Brian Witcombe (Treasurer), Sally Davis, Bernard Smith, Penny Fernando, Jim White, Caroline White, Patrick Marks, Angela Marks, Diana Davis, Heather Garner, Jenny Sawtell, Jacqui Pycroft, Brian Ruther, Ann Ruther, Bob Frewin, Colin Boosey, Sheelagh Witcombe, Lawrence Arnall, Joe Cullum, Olivia Gunn, Steve Priddey, Rosemary Byrne, Lenneke Jansens, Keith Eyles, Janet Hale, Sheelagh Collier, Gwen Chaney, Ron Burnip, Ros Burnip, Ann Adams, Ray Floater, Christine Tanfield

2. **Apologies**

Jill Stuart, Trevor Stuart, Sue Jones, Peter Jones, Derek Trubody, Annie Trubody, Sarah Booth, Anne Eamer, Franceska Waggett, John Geoghagan

3. **Agreement of the Minutes of 2017 AGM**

- Bernard Smith highlighted that Any Other Business items should not be minuted.

The minutes were approved as accurate and signed by the Chairman, Richard Davis.

4. **Matters Arising**

There were no Matters arising from the previous meeting.

5. **Annual Reports**

5a Chairman's Report

- Richard Davis presented his report (printed in the Newsletter).

5b Footpath Secretary's Report

- Bob Frewin's report was printed in the newsletter. He had nothing more to add.
- Ann Adams asked if he needed help, for which he does.

Richard Davis thanked Bob Frewin for all the hard work that he and his team do.

5c Treasurer's Report

- Accounts were distributed prior to the meeting and were available if required on receipt of a stamped address envelope.
- Report attached.
- Richard Davis praised the good state that our finances are in.
- Brian Witcombe thanked Steve Priddey for all of his Auditing work. He also thanked Richard Davis, Mike Garner, Ann Adams and Sally Davis for their financial input.

- Brian would also like to thank Gwen Cheney, the Area Treasurer. She has been very supportive to Brian and given him some good advice.

The reports 5a, 5b, and 5c were accepted and this was proposed by Rosemary Byrne and seconded by Brian Ruther.

6. Election of Officers and Committee Members

Officer	Nomination	Proposed	Seconded
Group Chairman	Richard Davis	Brian Ruther	Ann Adams
Vice Chairman	Mike Garner	Andrew Hawkins	Brian Ruther
Hon Secretary	Andrew Hawkins	Ann Ruther	Patrick Marks
Hon Treasurer	Brian Witcombe	Colin Boosey	Ann Adams

Membership Secretary	Mike Garner)		
Newsletter Editor	Sally Davis)		
Joint Website Editor	Mike Garner)		
Joint Website Editor	Sally Davis)	Block Vote	
Walks Programme			
Coordinator	Mike Garner)	Andrew Hawkins	Brian Ruther
Publicity Officer	Vacant)		
Committee Members	Diana Davis)		

Footpath Support Group

Footpath Chairman	Bob Frewin)		
Footpath Secretary	Bob Frewin)	Block Vote	
Footpath Vice Chairman	Vacant)		
Footpath Minutes Secretary	John Corry)	Ann Adams	Diana Davis
Committee Members	Penny Fernando)		
	John Clayton)		

Area Council Rep's	Penny Fernando)	Block Vote	
	Richard Davis)	Andrew Hawkins	Ann Adams

Walks Collectors	John Lang)		
	Ann Adams)		
	John Geoghegan)	Block Vote	
	Jacqui Pycroft)	Sally Davis	Rosemary Byrne
	Olivia Gunn)		
	Karen D'Amico)		
	Margaret Turner)		
	Sarah Booth)		
	Lenneke Jansens)		

7. Appointment of Hon Independent Examiner (Auditor)

- Steve Priddey to continue as the Auditor.

Proposed by Andrew Hawkins and Seconded by Colin Boosey.

8. Motions Received by the Due Date

There were no Motions.

9. Any Other Business

- Thanks were given to everyone who provided cakes.
- Richard Davis thanked Mark for all of his computer support especially recently as our website appears to have been “hacked” or someone attempted to “hack”. Extra security measures are now in place.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 13:45.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Do you realise that your group is run entirely by volunteers? Have you ever thought how much it would cost to finance an operation like this if you had to pay for staff? Staff to provide general management. Staff to organise a walks programme in excess of 150 walks per annum and to lead those walks. Staff to administer a membership of just under 400 members, to produce a newsletter and to run a website to act as a communication tool for those members, providing them with all the information needed for them to participate in our activities. Staff to run social activities such as two holidays a year, a lot of work in that, and a Christmas lunch and, finally, to monitor a steady flow of footpath complaints and problems. Did you know that Bob Frewin, our footpath secretary, has now surveyed 56 out of 60 parishes in our Group's area, not a cheap operation if you had to employ somebody to do it. Even where we do incur expenses these are currently covered by income generated by advertising and receipts from Ramblers Holidays under the Walking Partnership. This means that the income received via your subscriptions can be used almost entirely by Ramblers Central Office to further our interests through campaigning and support.

And this year has followed a familiar pattern. The usual walks programme. I have a feeling that there were even greater numbers on walks although sometimes this is accounted for by increased numbers from other groups and areas. Well done Mike for keeping everything up together and for coming up with some new ideas to improve collection of walks. Thanks also to the collectors and leaders. There is a continuing slight fall in membership, a worrying trend. Two great holidays firstly in Amalfi then St Ives. Thank you Ann, very much appreciated. Christmas lunch was once again a masterpiece in organisation, thank you Sally. Our website continues to be the envy of all who survey it, enthusiastically maintained by Mike, assisted by Sally.

And finally just a word about the way in which we all conduct ourselves on walks, whether it is as leaders, back markers, middle markers or walkers. Things do occasionally go wrong with people becoming detached from the group etc., and while the leader is ultimately responsible we all have a duty to be aware of our fellow walkers and to watch out for any likely problem, drawing the leader's attention to it immediately. Your committee (who must be obeyed) are currently giving some thought to this matter and hope to produce some guidelines, which will augment those which have been produced by Ramblers Central Office.

Happy rambling

Richard Davis - *Chairman*

FOOTPATH SUPPORT GROUP REPORT

Just about the only game in town at the moment is the A417 Missing Link project. Highways England have published their latest proposal for converting the stretch of road between the Cowley roundabout and the Brockworth by-pass to dual carriageway and invited responses from voluntary organisations and the general public. The Ramblers' response is being co-ordinated by Gloucestershire Area with input from the group footpath secretaries. Penny Fernando is the main representative from South Cotswolds. One of our key aims is to ensure safe crossing points for all public rights-of-way, something that was clearly lacking when the original road was built. We are also seeking to limit the visual impact of the new road on the landscape. Responses have to be submitted by 8th November.

Aside from the A417 upgrade, the past year has been similar to previous ones in terms of activity for the Footpath Support Group. There have been 7 planning applications requiring site visits, the same number as last year, with objections or comments lodged in several cases. On the footpath problems front the number of new issues reported to us has continued at the 60 per annum level with about half of these accounted for by overgrown vegetation and broken stiles. The other half consisted mainly of barbed wire, electric fences, locked gates, missing signposts and poor waymarking. We try to make site visits to look at most new problems reported. Some, such as minor vegetation overgrowth, we can deal with ourselves, the rest have to be passed on to the county council. Unfortunately budget constraints there mean that many of the less urgent issues do not get addressed, which is why some of them remain on our ongoing case list for several years.

I mentioned last year the project to run a new water pipeline from Brookthorpe to Minchinhampton Common, with its attendant impact on rights-of-way. This is now scheduled for completion by the end of the year, a couple of months later than originally planned.

Finally, thanks to those of you who have volunteered to investigate problems with footpaths in your local parishes. We have lost one stalwart member of our team this year (John Clayton) due to the pressure of other commitments, so any additional help is most welcome.

Bob Frewin

TREASURER'S REPORT 2018-2019

The financial position remains sound with a satisfactory balance in both our accounts.

Holiday Account: Over the last two or three years, this account has been used only for the seasonal meal. We aim to keep about £200 in the account to meet deposits and other contingencies and, after having already paid a deposit of £100 for next year's seasonal meal, the balance in this account is £153.02 .

General Account: As usual we received income from companies who advertised in our Newsletter (£255) and donations for cakes provided at our AGM (£35.20). If members who holiday with Ramblers Worldwide Holidays (RWH) remember to mention when they book that they are members of our group then we receive a donation from RWH. This year this amounted to £470, the total income from all these sources being £760.20.

Our outgoings consisted of £139.79 on administration (postage, photostats etc), £134 on printing, £465.98 on publicity and web costs, £33.60 on hire of the venue for our AGM and a £100 donation to Dursley Walking Festival. All this totalled £873.37 giving us a small deficit this year of £113.17 but leaving a solid balance of £3732.76 which has largely accrued over the years from the sale of our guide books.

In view of this healthy financial position we again decided to relinquish any allocation from central Ramblers sources and, under pressure from the Charities Commission, remain keen to find suitable projects to fund from our capital.

Brian Witcombe

discover

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BEFORE WALKING WITH SOUTH COTSWOLD RAMBLERS, PLEASE CHECK THIS ADVICE

NON MEMBERS - You are very welcome to walk with the Group up to 3 times. Just turn up on the day, at least 10 minutes early for the leader's briefing. Ring the leader first if you have any questions. We hope you will then wish to join the Ramblers on-line at www.ramblers.org.uk or with a leaflet from Mike, so do ask him on a walk. On the form quote South Cotswold if you wish to be in our particular Group or code GR03. Once a member you can walk with any Ramblers' group in Britain. You can see all our published future walks here: <http://tinyurl.com/SCRwalks> with maps.

ON THE DAY

Keep behind the leader unless asked otherwise at any stage.

THE PACE OF OUR WALKS

Wednesday, Thursday evening and Saturday walks are of **Moderate pace**, averaging 2 mph with stops.

Monday walks are labelled **Leisurely pace** and are about 1.5 mph; a 10:30 start on a 4 mile walk means finishing by about 13:00 approximately.

TERRAIN 0 - Level.

TERRAIN 1 - Not much climbing.

TERRAIN 2 - Hilly and level mix.

TERRAIN 3 - Hilly.

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 and a simple first aid kit.

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

DOGS - Sorry to disappoint anyone, registered assistance dogs only.

IMPORTANT - KEEPING TOGETHER ON A WALK 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 again. 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, perhaps in a wood, please pause and tell the people in front of you to wait a minute as well. One way is to give a long blast on your whistle if someone has lost touch.

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.

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.



Sat 2 Nov Not Bisley for a change! Moderate pace 5.5m
Start 10:00 Est finish 12:45 Frampton Mansell, Hailey Wood, Plantation, Sapperton Tunnel, Frampton Mansell. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. **Leaders - Brian & Ann R** 01452 770510 on day 07770 895035. Meet 09:50 Frampton Mansell, park in overflow car park at rear of Crown Inn if eating or drinking. Please pre-book food. (GL6 8JG) L163/E168 SO923027 <http://tinyurl.com/mapFramptonMansCrown>

Mon 4 Nov Chedworth Village & Roman Villa Leisurely pace 3.5m Start 10:30 Est finish 12:45 Starting at picturesque village and walking to the Roman Villa in the neighbouring valley. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Lunch at Seven Tuns if required. **Leader - Jacqui P** 01666 826139. Meet 10:20 Chedworth, Seven Tuns car park if using, or on road nearby. Pub is near church. (GL54 4AE). L163/OL45 SP052120 <https://tinyurl.com/mapChedworth7Tuns>

Wed 6 Nov River crossing Moderate pace 7.5m
Start 10:00 Est finish 14:15 Frampton Mansell, Iles Green, Oakridge Farm, Daneway, Sapperton, canal and Frome. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Picnic lunch. **Leaders - Jill S & Sue C** 01242 255994 on day 07815 786467. Meet 09:50 Frampton Mansell. Turn off A419 near Jolly Nice and park on verge near village. (GL6 8JE) L163/E168 SO919022 <http://tinyurl.com/mapFramptonMansVerge>

Sat 9 Nov 2 Stans 2 Ways Moderate pace 8.7m
Start 10:00 Est finish 14:30 Undulating walk following Cotswold and Winchcombe Ways via Stanway and Snowhill. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Picnic. **Leader - Andrew H** 01452 857958 on day 07900 390351. Meet 09:50 Stanton in front of Stanton Village Club / Cricket Club. (WR12 7NG) OL45/L150 SP067343. <http://tinyurl.com/mapStantonCC>

Wed 13 Nov Walking in King Henry's footsteps Moderate pace 5.5m Start 10:00 Est finish 12:45 Picturesque views from Upton St Leonards to Prinknash. Terrain 1 Mainly level, only one hill, crossing fields (could be boggy) and with some tarmac paths. Lunch available at Kings Arms. Pre-book lunches. **Leader - Janet W** 07765 276534. Meet 09:50 Kings Arms, Upton St Leonards, on B4073 at foot of Painswick Hill. Please park at far end of car park. (GL4 8AA) L162/E179 SO859146. <http://tinyurl.com/mapUptonStLeonards>

Sat 16 Nov Pre AGM preamble Moderate pace 5m
Start 10:00 Est finish 12:30 Distance flexible to fit in with timing of AGM. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Bring a picnic to eat after the walk & before AGM. **Leaders - Sally D & Keith E** 01453 872729 on day 07818 425088. Meet 09:50 Rodborough Tabernacle CP - from Stroud, just after cattle grid turn R off road leading up towards Fort signed United Reformed Church then downhill for 500 yards. (GL5 3UJ). L162/E168 SO845040 <http://tinyurl.com/mapRodboroughTab>

Mon 18 Nov No mix up this time! Leisurely pace 3.8m
Start 10:30 Est finish 12:45 Bisley, Througham, Battlescombe, Bisley. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Pre-book lunch. **Leaders - Brian & Ann R** 01452 770510 on day 07770 895035. Meet 10:20 Bisley, Bear CP or street parking if not using. (GL6 7BD) L163/E179 SO903060 <http://tinyurl.com/mapBisleyBearCP>

Wed 20 Nov Teachers Day Moderate pace 6m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Sapperton, Daneway, Siccaridge, Pinbury. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. **Leader - Richard D** 01453 762373 on day 07579 219065 Meet 09:50 Park considerately in Sapperton Village by church. L163/E179 SO947033 <http://tinyurl.com/mapSapperton>

Sat 23 Nov The Great Barn Moderate pace 12m
Start 10:00 Est finish 16:30 Longcot, Little Coxwell, Great Coxwell, Badbury Hill, Coxwell Wood, Coleshill. Terrain 2 Hilly ad level mix. Bring picnic lunch. **Leader - Graham W** 01453 885408 or on day 07977 863592. Meet 09:50 Coleshill NT Estate Yard (From Cirencester A419, B4019 Highworth to Coleshill). (SN6 7PT) E170 SU236935. <https://tinyurl.com/mapColeshillEstateYd>

Wed 27 Nov Stand and Deliver Moderate pace 6m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:15 Miserden Park drive, Bull Banks, Duntisbourne Abbots, Winstone. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Very few stiles. Pre-book lunch at The Highwayman Pub. **Leaders - Patrick & Angela M** 01452 616886 on day 07778 662951. Meet 09:50 Highwayman Pub off A417 Gloucester to Cirencester road. (GL53 9PH) L163/E179 SO966107. <http://tinyurl.com/mapA417HighwaymanPub>

Sat 30 Nov Hamlets around Bisley Moderate pace 5.5m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Mostly open fields to Oakridge and Far Oakridge. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Pre-book at the Bear if eating. **Leader - Colin B A** 01453 872349 on day 07717 317510. Meet 09:50 Bisley, The Bear CP or street parking if not using pub. (GL6 7BD) L163/E179 SO903060 <http://tinyurl.com/mapBisleyBearCP>

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NEW! Leaders - Be an early bird!

Mike Garner writes, "Starting on Sunday 10 November, there is an opportunity for you to offer your next walk dates for March to June 2020 online. This will cut out a lot of work for walk collectors in phoning you. If you are quick, you will get dates that suit you. I will phone leaders not on email on 10 November to give them a fair chance.

"If there are any gaps remaining on Sunday 1 December (hopefully not), our walk collectors may need to start phoning round to fill up the list of dates, so it would be very helpful if you booked your dates on the link below before then."

www.southcotswoldramblers.org.uk/wp/offer-a-walk-date-here/



Mon 2 Dec Austerlitz Remembered Leisurely pace 3.5m
Start 10:30 Est finish 12:45 Whiteway, Honeycombe, Sudgrove
Terrain 0 Level. Lunch available at Carpenters Arms. Pre-book.
Leader - Richard D 01453 762373 on day 07579 219065. Meet
10:20 Miserden village near pub, in CP if eating and if room.
(GL6 7JA) L163/E179 SO937088.
<http://tinyurl.com/mapMiserdenCArms>

Wed 4 Dec Canal, common and river Moderate pace 5.5m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00. Gentle climb up to com-
mon, down through fields to Fromebank then back along ca-
nal. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Could be muddy along
Fromebanks but otherwise good paths. Meal possible,
pre-order. **Leader- Ann A** 01453 839089 on day 07931
114439. Meet Brimscombe, Ship Inn. Use car park if eating.
There is parking nearby if not. (GL5 2RD) L162/E168 SO867023
<http://tinyurl.com/mapBrimscCombeShipInn>

Sat 7 Dec Coaley to the Hills Moderate pace 7.6m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:45 Across fields to Littlecombe then
Cotswold Way to Coaley Wood and across fields back. Terrain
3 Hilly. Bring a snack. **Leaders - Peter & Susan J** 01453 860797
on day 07854 634090. Meet 09:50 Coaley Church, please park
considerately in the village or in CP behind village hall - not in
front of hall. (GL11 5ED) L162/E167 SO771017
<http://tinyurl.com/mapCoaleyChurch>

Wed 11 Dec Round, up Down and back Moderate pace 7m
Start 10:00 Est finish 14:00 Ferris Gate, Round Elm, Swift's Hill,
Slad, Down Hill, Piedmont. Terrain 3 Hilly. Bring a bite or two.
Leaders - Mike & Heather G 01453 873625 on day 07749
282087. Meet 09:50 Bisley, Windyridge layby on Cheltenham
Road. (GL6 7BJ) L163/E179 SO903063
<http://tinyurl.com/mapBisleyWindyridge>

Sat 14 Dec Mince Pie Walk Moderate pace 6m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:30 Following Gloucester Sharpness
canal to docks. Returning via Llanthony Secunda Priory and
Hempsted village. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Bring a snack.
Leader - John G 01452 728760. Meet 09:50 Gloucester, Rea
Bridge CP. Follow B4008 towards Gloucester past Tesco
Quedgeley roundabout and take 2nd L at traffic lights along
Merlin Drive. At 2nd roundabout turn R along Elmore Lane
West and CP is on L before canal bridge. (GL2 4NS) L162/E179
SO805150 <http://tinyurl.com/mapGlosReaBridge>

Mon 16 Dec Coombe and Coombe Hill Leisurely pace 3.5m
Start 10:30 Est finish 13:00 Along the stream to Coombe,
around the lake, up and around Coombe Hill. Amazing views.
Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. 2 stiles, 4 kissing gates, steep up
and downs, slippery and muddy if wet. Pubs and cafes in
Wotton. **Leader - Colin B K** 01453 843716 on day 07525
453911 Meet 10:20 Wotton-u-Edge, Royal Oak, Haw St. Park
at top end of CP if eating, otherwise park in The Chipping CP
or conveniently in town. (GL12 7AG) L162/E167 ST755933
<http://tinyurl.com/mapWottonRoyalOakCP>

Wed 18 Dec A bracing Christmas walk Moderate pace 5.5m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:15 Burleigh, Amberley and Box. A walk
around the perimeters of common. Terrain 2 Hilly & level mix.
Refreshments available in Minchinhampton after. **Leaders -**
Steve P & Rosemary B 01453 860130. Meet 09:50 edge of
common behind Minchinhampton Church. (GL6 9BP)
L162/E168 SO872009
<http://tinyurl.com/mapMinchEdgeCommon>

Sat 21 Dec Hillesley and Kingswood Moderate pace 6m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:15 Fields, woods, a sanctuary, more
fields and a nice pub. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. A few
stiles. Will be muddy in parts. Meal possible at Fleece Inn,
please pre-book on day. **Leader Colin B K** 01453 843716 on day
07525 453911. Meet Hillesley, Fleece Inn. If not eating there
please park considerately in village (GL12 7RH) L162/E167
ST770897 <http://tinyurl.com/mapHillesleyFleece>

Sat 28 Dec Towpath to Bath Moderate pace 5m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:15 Towpath along Kennet & Avon
canal to Pulteney Bridge in Bath. One hour for shopping,
sightseeing or coffee. Back via Sydney Gardens to towpath and
start. Terrain 0 Level. Food in Bath or at George Inn,
Bathampton at end. No need to pre-book. **Leader - Derek T**
01454 218691 on day 07711 445395. Meet 09:50 George Inn
CP, Bathampton. Park away from pub. A46 to Bath, take Bath
exit to roundabout at top, first L along London Rd West, next R
Mill Lane across toll bridge (80p each way). George Inn is on R
after 2nd bridge. (BA2 6TP) L155 ST776664
<http://tinyurl.com/mapBHGeorgelInn>

Mon 30 Dec Walk off that Christmas dinner Leisurely pace 4m
Start 10:30 Est finish 13:00 An easy walk across to the fort
and back past Winstone's, ice cream stop if they are open.
Terrain 1 Not much climbing. One short climb near end of
walk. **Leader - Ann A** 01453 839089 on day 07931 114439.
Meet 10:20 Amberley War Memorial. Park on Common
without damaging grass. (GL5 5AA) L162/E168 SO851016
<http://tinyurl.com/mapAmberleyWM>

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LEADERS A quick reminder that all walk offers for
March to June are due in by the end of December. We
hope that you will have volunteered your date(s)
earlier in November using the link below.

<https://www.southcotswoldramblers.org.uk/wp/offer-a-walk-date-here/> Still active in December.
The following members are ready to phone some of you
up in December if there are any gaps remaining.

SATURDAYS - JOHN G - 01452 728760

MONDAYS - MIKE G - 01453 873625

WEDNESDAYS - ANN A - 01453 839089

THURSDAY EVENINGS - KAREN D - 01453 545824

Mike will need all walk details by 25 January 2020.



Wed 1 Jan Ramblers Resolution Moderate pace 5m
Start 10:00 Est finish 12:45 Shipton Moyne. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. **Leader - Olivia G** 01453 751716 on day 07538 160563 Meet 09:50 Tetbury old station CP (free). (GL8 8EY) L162/E168 ST893933 <http://tinyurl.com/mapTetburyOldStation>

Sat 4 Jan Selsley and Woodchester Moderate pace 6m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Windsor Edge, Dunkirk, cycle track, South Woodchester. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. **Leader - Tim C** 01453 757104. Meet 09:50 Selsley Common main CP (with 3 entrances). (GL5 5PL) L162/E168 SO828026 <http://tinyurl.com/mapSelsleyCom>

Mon 6 Jan Arlingham in Reverse Leisurely pace 4m
Start 10:30 Est finish 12:45 Along Silver Street, across the fields to Overton, then down to the river to return via the Severn Way Terrain 0 Level. Food available at Bell Inn Frampton-on-Severn. **Leader - Margaret T** 01453 828036 on day 07930 396204. Meet 10:20 Arlingham. Please park considerately along Church Road which is opposite The Red Lion Inn. (GL2 7JR) L162/OL14 SO708109 <http://tinyurl.com/mapArlingham>

Wed 8 Jan We'll take the low road ... and we'll take the high road Moderate pace 6.5m Start 10:00 Est finish 13:30 Across common, down to old railway, up to Rodborough Fort, Ice Cream factory, lanes and common to return. Terrain 3 Hilly. Generally flat, BUT includes a long, steep, 350 ft climb, plus other climbs totalling 650 ft. Two pubs close to the end point. **Leader - Dave I** 07770 632652 Meet 09:50 Amberley War memorial, top of village. Park on common without damaging grass. (GL5 5AA) L162, E168 SO851016 <http://tinyurl.com/mapAmberleyWM>

Sat 11 Jan Snozell, locals say Moderate pace 8.5m
Start 10:00 Est finish 14:30 Stanton, Cotswold Way, Stanway, Lidcombe Wood, Snowhill. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Picnic lunch. **Leader - Graham W** 01453 885408 or on day 07977 863592. Meet Snowhill CP (WR12 7JR) OL45 SP096341 <https://tinyurl.com/mapSnowhillCP>

Wed 15 Jan Castle Combe, Ford & Long Dean Moderate pace 5.8m Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Across golf course towards Nettleton, then woodland track, metalled lanes and pasture to Ford with one steep ascent and one steep descent. Walk back via Long Dean. Ascent back up to car park. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Likely to be muddy. Two pubs in Castle Combe - White Hart and Castle Inn. Pre-booking not required. **Leader - Derek T** 01454 218691 on day 07711 445395. Meet Castle Combe CP at top of village (SN14 7HH) L173/E156 ST845776 <http://tinyurl.com/mapCastleCombe>

Sat 18 Jan No Rosie, no cider Moderate pace 6.2m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Painswick Stream, Mann's Court, Pope's Wood, golf course. Terrain 3 Hilly. **Leaders - Jill S & Sue C** 01242 255994 on day 07815 786467. Meet 09:50 Painswick Walkers CP, off B4073. (GL6 6RR) L162/E179 SO867104. <http://tinyurl.com/mapPainswickWCP>

Mon 20 Jan An old chestnut Leisurely pace 4m
Start 10:30 Est finish 13:00 Holcombe Farm, Spoonbed Farm, Painswick Beacon. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Pubs in Painswick after if desired. **Leaders - Patrick & Angela M** 01452 616886 on day 07778 662951. Meet 10:20 Painswick Walkers CP, off B4073 (GL6 6RR) L162/E179 SO867104 <http://tinyurl.com/mapPainswickWCP>

Wed 22 Jan Anyone for Polo, chaps? Moderate pace 6.4m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:30 Daglingworth, Cirencester Park. Terrain 0 Level 2 slight slopes. Food available at Plough Inn. **Leaders - Sally D & Ros B** 01453 872729 / 01285 239054 on day 07752 397855 Meet 09:50 Plough Inn, Gloucester Road, Stratton, Cirencester. If not eating, park in Overhill Road, opposite Stratton House Hotel. (GL7 2LB) L163/E169 SP014034 <http://tinyurl.com/mapStrattonPlough>

Sat 25 Jan Over to the other Syde Moderate pace 8m
Start 10:00 Est finish 14:30 Through Brimpsfield Park, Poston and Ostrich Woods to Syde returning via Winstone Wood to Caudle Green and Brimpsfield to Birdlip. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Bring picnic lunch. **Leader - Lawrence A** 07486 415265 on day 07486 415265. Meet 09:50 Birdlip, roadside parking near school. (GL4 8JH) L163/E179 SO928142 <http://tinyurl.com/mapBirdlipSch>

Wed 29 Jan Along the river to Arlingham Moderate pace 8m
Start 10:00 Est finish 14:15 Saul Junction to Upper Framilode. Severn Way cutting off to Arlingham. Sharpness canal back to carpark. Terrain 0 Level. Bring a picnic lunch. **Leader - Lawrence A** 07486 415265 Meet 09:50 Cotswold Canal Visitor Centre, Saul Junction. Access from NW side of Sandfield Bridge (Church Lane). Park at pay-and-display car park (£5) or nearby. L162/EO14 SO755092 <http://tinyurl.com/mapSaulJunc>





Sat 1 Feb Cherington circular Moderate pace 8m
Start 10:00 Est finish 14:15 Rodmarton, Culkerton, Cherington pond. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Bring a packed lunch.
Leader - Olivia G 01453 751716 on day 07538 160563. Meet 09:50 Rodmarton, park on verge of Cherington Road. (GL7 6QB) L162/E168 ST939979 <http://tinyurl.com/mapRodmarton>

Mon 3 Feb Kingscote century Leisurely pace 4m
Start 10:30 Est finish 13:00 Hay Bottom, Newington Bagpath, Hazelcote. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Pub lunch possible at end. **Leaders - Mike & Heather G** 01453 873625 on day 07749 282087. Meet 10:20 Kingscote, Hunters Hall Inn CP. (GL8 8YA) L162/E168 ST 814960
<http://tinyurl.com/mapKingscoteHuntersHall>

Wed 5 Feb Railyard Rendezvous Moderate pace 5m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Flatish walk to Long Newton, Shipton Mill and back. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Lunch possible from Snooty Fox pub, the Close restaurant or numerous cafes. **Leaders - Brian & Sheelagh W** 01453 872220 on day 07761 039595. Meet Tetbury old station CP (free). (GL8 8EY) L162/E168 ST893933
<http://tinyurl.com/mapTetburyOldStation>

Sat 8 Feb Kingshill to Coaley Moderate pace 6m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Via Uphorpe, Coaley, Silver Street and Far Green. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Bring a snack.
Leaders - Karen & Tony D 01453 545824. Meet 09:50 Dursley, Kingshill Road. Please park considerably in nearby side roads and meet outside Lidl. (GL11 4EH) L162/E167 ST751988
<http://tinyurl.com/mapDursleyNearLidl>

Wed 12 Feb A tumulus too far, "figureightly" speaking Moderate pace 8m Start 10:00 Est finish 15:00 Southwards from Minchinhampton Common. Terrain 3 Hilly. If the weather is severe, this walk can be shortened to 4 miles. Bring picnic.
Leader - Franceska W 07582 372711 Meet 09:50 Park on Minchinhampton Common. Find Tom Long's Post in middle of common, turn S towards Nailsworth. Old Lodge pub is along track on right. Park either side of track. (GL6 9AQ) L162/E168 SO853008 <http://tinyurl.com/mapMinchComOldLodge>

Sat 15 Feb
Our
Annual
Lunch



Mon 17 Feb To the tower but no be-heading Leisurely pace 4.5m Start 10:30 Est finish 13:15 Bournsteam, Tyndale Monument, Brackenbury Ditches, Wotton Hill. Just over the 4 mile limit but worth it for the views. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix with one longish hill. Food pre-booked at the Royal Oak.
Leader - Chris L 014653 842298 on day 07512 478477 Meet 10:20 in Royal Oak CP, Wotton under Edge (GL12 7AG), park at top if eating or use free Chipping CP nearby. L162/E167 ST755933 <http://tinyurl.com/mapWottonRoyalOakCP>

Wed 19 Feb Gershwin favourite not allowed Mod. pace 7.2m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:45 Hazel Wood, Ledgemore Bottom, Chavenage Green, Longtree Bottom, Shipton's Grave Lane. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Bring a snack. **Leader - John G** 01452 728760 Meet 09:50 Nailsworth Garden Centre. (GL6 OBS) L162/E168 ST854995 <http://tinyurl.com/mapNailsworthGC>



Sat 22 Feb Snail's pace Moderate pace 6.3m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Chedworth Airfield, Withington Woods, Casey Compton, Chedworth Roman Villa. Terrain 0 Level. Lunch available at 7 Tuns or Chedworth Farm Shop after.
Leaders - Jill S & Sue C 01242 255994 on day 07815 786467. Meet 09:50 Chedworth Old Airfield. (GL54 4NX) L163/OL45 SP039131 <http://tinyurl.com/mapChedworthOldAirfield>

Wed 26 Feb Bulls Cross Circular Moderate pace 5.8m
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:15 Frith Wood to Slad, Down Wood, above Sheepscombe, Jack's Green. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. **Leaders - Bill & Penny B** 01452 813094 on day 07928 676713. Meet 09:50 Meet Bulls Cross layby B4070 above Slad. [GL6 7QT] L162/E168 SO877087
<http://tinyurl.com/mapBullsCross>

Sat 29 Feb A Leap In The Dark Moderate pace 6m approx
Start 10:00 Est finish 13:00 Around Stonehouse. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. **Leader - Alex Y** 01453 826907 Meet 09:50 Stonehouse (free) car park (GL10 2NG) L162/E168 SO806054
<https://tinyurl.com/mapStonehouseMainHighStCP>



Walking Together Winchcombe Sat 14th Sept 2019

Members, non members, Groups, Affiliated Clubs and Walking for Health got together for some bright late summer walks. Above North Cotswold Ramblers & visitors pause before heading up Langley Hill, part of a figure of 8 walk including lunch at the Corner Cupboard. An enjoyable day ending with a sociable round of tea and cake and wrapped up by Brian Payne of the hosts Cleve Group.

Diary Dates

Gloucestershire Area AGM
Sat 7th Dec 2019 10:00 am
Blockley Jubilee Hall GL56 9BY
Hosts: North Cotswold Group
Bring and Share Lunch. Short afternoon walk.

Gloucestershire Ramblers
Area Council Meeting
Wed 29th January 2020 7:30pm
Gloucester Room, Premier Inn,
A38 Twigworth. GL2 9PG

First Aid Days 11 Oct Staverton,
22nd Oct Bourton on the Water
Ramblers Roadshow 26 October



Find us on Facebook and Meetup

A417, Air Balloon, Cotswold Way, please respond:- 'Environmental Impact' Consultation

Imagine standing on the Cotswold Way outside the Air Balloon Inn with all the through traffic taken away onto a new road (preferably a tunnel). This was the goal of our forebears, holding placard protests, some twenty years ago.

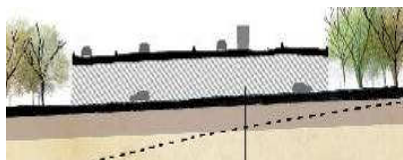
The road scheme is now gathering pace. Highways England have set out their plans for the minimum they feel would meet the aims of the project. They're running a consultation at which they're naturally expert & produced some nice water colour plans. Overlaying these onto an OS map highlights the losses in accessibility & impact on the landscape. Ramblers Central Office is assisting too.

Most footpaths, bridleways etc crossing the route are slated to be extinguished or diverted. The plans still don't show Other Routes of Public Access, indicated by round green dots on OS maps, used by many popular walking & riding routes ->

There is also no mention of the loss of the Air Balloon Inn, one of the landmarks on the Cotswold Way. Nor that the proposed deep cutting impacts on Neolithic Emma's Grove - the Gloucestershire Way is diverted away from the site.



The new A417 takes most traffic off the Air Balloon roundabout. Highways England intends to create a new Shab Hill junction instead of the roundabout to link the A436 to the new road but no bridges for the two paths north & south.



The new junction is built up at the highest point in the landscape. The dotted line left shows the current lie of the land, with the new road flying over the junction, higher again - ideal for maximising spread of traffic noise for miles around. If the junction needs to be there, why isn't the top busy dual carriageway in a cutting underneath? The tree planting hopes to minimise noise in the future.

Highways England proposed Green Bridge for the Cotswolds vs. Green flanked bridges being constructed elsewhere:-



Using Ramblers Pathwatch as a Navigation Tool

Pathwatch isn't just a means for reporting footpath issues. The 'Locate Me' function can be used as a useful navigation tool.

If you're not quite sure where you are in the Countryside, open Pathwatch on your smart phone. Select the 'Report it' page, then press 'Locate Me' as shown bottom left in the image on the right.

The small red symbol on the map indicates where the phone thinks you are. It may need a minute or two to calculate your position from the satellites travelling around the earth, so press 'Locate Me' a few times to make sure.

Note that if you're using Pathwatch for the first time, the phone may not allow Pathwatch to use your location. The little arrow next to the battery percentage, top right of the screen, can give a clue. Check Privacy Settings in the phone, look for Pathwatch & allow it to use 'location services'.

If you need to report a feature (say a dodgy stile or blocked path) you can slide the map around so the green cross-hair shape is centred on the feature. Press 'Add Feature' to begin to submit a report. Note that the report uses the green symbol rather than the red one so make sure it's in the right place!



Lost Ways & Don't Lose your Way

Perhaps two different projects but the 1st January 2026 cut off date to register definitive map updates can apply to both.

Lost Ways is about use of historic maps to claim routes currently missing from maps and so not widely in use - eg a railway bridge with no path below.

Don't Lose Your Way includes paths in use today that may not be marked on the map or their indicated status may need updating. For example the green spots on the map above indicate Other Route of Public Access ORPA where the status has not been fully defined. Sometimes Ordnance Survey uses black dashes for an undefined path.

Ramblers Central Office should have a new mapping system in the New Year. Meanwhile use Pathwatch to report a lost path (press 'Other'), contact footpaths@gloucestershireramblers.org.uk or search Ramblers website for DLYW.

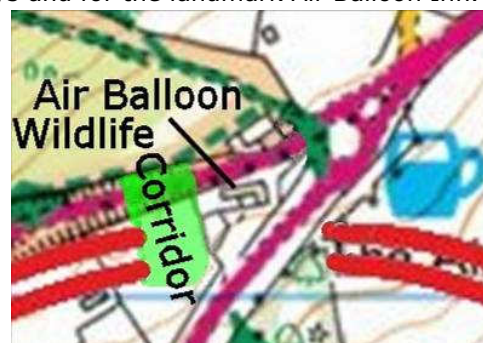
A417, Air Balloon, Cotswold Way, Environmental Impact Consultation – continued

Highways England current 'Option 30' proposals may be great for the new dual carriageway, but could do a lot more for Rights of Way, the landscape & the countryside. Many organisations are continuing to press for a 1km tunnel. Option 30 could be said to have a 1km tunnel but with the top removed – it's a 100ft deep cutting. The roof could be kept in place for paths & tracks including the Cotswold & Gloucestershire Ways and for the landmark Air Balloon Inn.

The proposed 50 metre wildlife bridge across both the new & current roads seems more concrete than green. Its use for riding, cycling etc may not be complementary. A better option could be a green wildlife corridor alongside the 100 metre Air Balloon site and separate from current crossings, all on the roof of the cutting – altogether a 150 metre bridge or short tunnel-->>

It is worthwhile responding to the consultation. Previous suggestions have updated the plans; the road is now low in the landscape towards Cowley.

Suggestions to close local roads to 'reconnect the landscape' may not be good for local villages, tourism or the economy. Reconnect the landscape over the new road should be more use to walkers, wildlife & the landscape.



<p>1. From Brockworth to Shab Hill, current A417 traffic levels mean crossing paths can be difficult to use. The new road must have bridges for bridleways & footpaths.</p>	<p>5. Traffic on the current road could reduce by some 90%. As a B road it can retain local access & tourism. Funding should reconnect the landscape across the new road.</p>
<p>2. The proposed 50 metre wildlife bridge is not very green & could be relocated next to the Air Balloon site so both can remain on top of a short (150m) tunnel.</p>	<p>6. While construction of the new road is in progress, footpaths, bridleways, tracks etc should remain open particularly during evenings and at weekends.</p>
<p>3. From Shab Hill to Cowley Junction the route should remain low in the landscape & include a restricted byway and an ORPA crossing missing from plans.</p>	<p>7. A new A417 should take through-traffic off local roads, leaving the landscape & environment as it is today. This should minimise the impact of the new road & keep the Air Balloon, Gloucestershire & Cotswold Ways in place.</p>
<p>4. Alternative 2 as a link road has 1-2 mile longer journey distances for connecting the A436 than keeping the Air Balloon roundabout. Consider taking the east bound slip off the new road near the Cold Slad turn.</p>	<p>8. If the scheme is truly landscape led and implemented to minimise impact and to benefit the Cotswolds AONB this could become a future exemplar road project.</p>

Gloucestershire Ramblers Area includes eight Ramblers Groups and a number of Affiliated Organisations. Over 60 Ramblers' Areas join together to form the Ramblers Association.

Cirencester Ramblers Group

It has been a full on Summer for the Cirencester group with walks in Oxfordshire, Wiltshire as well this county. We also had one evening and one midweek walk with dogs permitted, the evening one being especially well attended. Another dog friendly walk is planned for December.

Members gathered on 30th June for the Strawberry Tea. This was hosted by Morag at her home in Cricklade, when 44 members and guests enjoyed the wonderful choice of cakes, generously donated by members, plus of course strawberries & cream, washed down with tea or coffee.



Highlights to come include "A Taste of the West Country", 4 night mid-week Torquay break in October, visit to the Longleat "Festival of Light" and our next Away Weekend is planned for Ilfracombe in April 2020.

Path Maintenance Volunteers have made two visits to a very overgrown footpath in the village of Winson. The first session in June cleared a very dense hedge that had been allowed to take root and grow in the footpath. Second session in September through woodland was easier.
Pat Beckley - Cirencester Ramblers



Cleeve Ramblers Group

A walk in July near Winchcombe found this walkway that the Cotswold Wardens had added non-slip surfacing. It's part of a new tramper route for people with some disability.

The Group Committee continues to meet every 2 months. A full programme of weekly Sunday walks continues and membership remains relatively stable. More walk leaders have come forward and walk numbers appear higher than last year.

Gloucestershire Walking Group

In celebration of the life of Jonathan Moore who passed away on a walk a year ago.

An enjoyable 11 mile linear July walk from Cricklade to Lechlade along the Thames Path National Trail including a recently negotiated section avoiding the busy A361.



First Aid Training Days

St John Ambulance is holding some First Aid training tailored for Ramblers walks.



Friday 11 October at Staverton between Cheltenham and Gloucester.
Tuesday 22 October, Bourton on the Water. Book your place at Ramblers.

Ramblers Roadshow Gloucestershire. Saturday 26 October, Cotswold Water Park, Cirencester

The De Vere venue will have various workshop sessions - essentially two categories, technical and volunteering.

The technical ones help members deliver our mission on the ground say walk leading, or footpath issues.

Volunteering sessions focus on ensuring that the Ramblers can continue to function, committee team work, recruiting members or helping volunteers.

Volunteer with us

We're a close knit team. Why not join us to share with the roles, edit this newsletter, create a database, help with member's queries or help with footpath issues? There is no pay but the rewards are great!

A page of Mid Week walks for the Gloucestershire Ramblers Area

Gloucestershire Ramblers Area organises a series of day walks, approx 10-12 miles long, usually mid-week, in or perhaps outside the county. If you're not yet a member, why not give us a try (please contact leader beforehand). Once a member, all our walks are free! (Sorry Registered Assistance dogs only but see www.fodramblers.org.uk)

Wed 6 Nov 09:30 10mi/16km Moderate **A Wood & Beyond**
FC car park in Haugh Wood, off minor road between Woolhope and Mordiford. E189. (HR1 4QX, SO592366)
A wander around Haugh Wood and nearby hills, including part of the Wye Valley Walk and passing Mordiford and Checkley. Picnic. Please note earlier start time.
Susanne, 01453 757212 or 07587 713668 on day.

Wed 13 Nov 10:00 10mi/16km Mod **Bromsberrow Church**
(park on verge near church). E190. (HR8 1RU, SO743336)
Southern Malverns Ramble Walk Bromsberrow, Chase End Hill. Circle Ragged Stone Hill from White Leaved Oak. Howler's Heath (access land), Wayend Street, Hillend. Easy walking. Picnic.
Roy & Anne, 01242 245488 or 07766 413176 on day

Wed 20 Nov 10:00 10m M **Getting High on Brockhampton**
Park in Station Road, Andoversford Village Centre by old cattle market site. OL45. (GL54 4AZ, SP024198)
Walk Whittington, Puckham Woods, West Down, Charlton Pool, Brockhampton for pub lunch or drink/picnic. Return via Elsdon Covert and Syreford.
Moderate with a couple of climbs.
Guy, 01242 251412 or 07968 797186 on day.

Wed 27 Nov 10:00 10mi/16km Strenuous **Malvern Hills**
Car Park opposite Malvern Hills Hotel. Parking charge £4.40 cash only. E190 (WR13 6DW, SO763403)
A linear walk along the top of the Malvern Hills via the Wyche Cutting to the Worcestershire Beacon and North Hill. We will take a similar route back to the start but using some alternative paths
Michael, 07986 6162575

Wed 4 Dec 10:00 11mi/18km Mod **North Cotswolds walk 1**
Fish Hill picnic site, off A44 Broadway to Moreton-in-Marsh road. Limited parking, please share cars if possible. OL45. (WR12 7LD, SP118371)
Cotswold, Monarch and Heart of England Way. Chipping and Broad Campden, Blockley and Central Wood. Some gradients but nothing strenuous. Picnic.
Barry, 07407 359600

Wed 11 Dec 10:00 10m/16km Mod **North Cotswolds walk 2**
Fish Hill CP off the A44 Broadway to Moreton-in-Marsh Rd. Limited parking, please car share if possible. OL45. (WR12 7LD, SP118371)
Walk to Broadway, Saintbury, Weston-sub-Edge and Dover's Hill. Picnic.
Robert, 07807 342238

Wed 18 Dec 10:00 A mystery short walk before **Christmas Lunch**. More details available later - please check web-site.
Contact: Catherine, 01452 559924 or 07456 425880 on day

Wed 25 Dec 10:00 Currently no walk planned, but a Christmas Day walk proved popular last year.

This walks list is also available at gloucestershireramblers.org.uk/midweek

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. Could include hills and rough country, and may be at a brisk pace.

Wed 1 Jan 10:00 10m/16km M **Stroud New Year's Day Walk**
Meet at the corner of Folly lane and Loveday's Mead, Stroud. Should be plenty of parking on a Bank Holiday. E179. (GL5 1SD, SO851055)
An approx.10m walk in the hills and valleys to the north of Stroud to welcome in the New Year. Picnic.
Hilary, 01453 753398 or 07503754620 on day

Wed 08 Jan 10:00 10m/16km Moderate **Why oh Wye**
Fownhope recreation ground CP. Has toilets and plenty of parking. (HR1 4PE, SO577342) E189.
A winter walk in Herefordshire. Picnic.
David O'B, 07976 941676

Wed 15 Jan 10:00 10m M **Winchcombe 3 Roels, few Abbots**
Winchcombe Back Lane CP (£1). OL45. (GL54 5PZ, SP023284)
A walk out to the site of Winchcombe Abbey's Leper Colony for coffee. Onwards through bronze and iron age history and medieval villages. Lunch with distant views of Sudeley Castle. Picnic.
Bernard, 01242 602024

Wed 22 Jan 10:00 11m/17km M **Climb to Nibley Monument**
Farmers Table Upper Car Park. L162/E167. (GL12 8HF, ST704930)
Walk Tortworth, Huntingford, Bradley Green, Nibley, Avening Green. Bring a picnic. Cafe open at the end of the walk. 760 feet ascent.
Richard, 07512758229

Wed 29 Jan 10:00 10mi/16km Moderate **Uley**
Park on road in Uley near to the church. E167/168. (GL11 5SN, ST792986)
A walk in the countryside around Uley. Moderate with several climbs. Picnic.
Mick, 01453 542082 or 07443 643462 on day

Wed 05 Feb 10:00 10mi/16km Mod **Bredon Hill**
Park at Beckford Village Hall. E190 (GL20 7AA, SO974358)
Walk up to the Banbury Stone tower & downhill to Kemerton. Picnic or optional lunch at the Crown. Return to Beckford via Oldbury and Conderton.
Jo, 07990 595246

Wed 12 Feb 10:00 10mi/16km Moderate **By the Severn**
Meet at Cotswold Canal Visitor Centre, Saul Junction. Access from the NW side of Sandfield Bridge. Park at the Pay & Display CP (£5.00) or nearby. L162/OL14 (GL2 7LA, SO755092)
Start at Saul junction, along the course of the disused canal to Upper Framilode, then following the Severn Way with views of Westbury-on-Severn, Newnham, Bullo Pill and Awre on the other side of the river. After Hock Cliff the walk takes us inland along the Sharpness canal back to the CP. No hills. Picnic.
Lawrence, 07486 415265

Wed 19 Feb 10:00 10mi/16km Moderate **Coaley Peak**
Coaley Peak CP. E168 (GL10 3TP, SO795015)
A walk in the hills and valleys from Coaley Peak. Picnic.
Sue L, 01452 741229 or 07808 116725 on day

Wed 26 Feb 10:00 11.5mi/18.5km Mod **Stow on the Wold**
Start from the Market Square, Stow. Free parking in the car park by Tesco. (GL54 1AF, SP191258)
Walk Mangersbury, Bledington, Lower Oddington, Upper Oddington and back to Stow. Bring a picnic lunch. Possible pub stop.
Martin, 07790437908

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