

RUGBY RAMBLERS NEWSLETTER

December 2022

EDITOR: Judy Blagden • Tel: 02476545521 • email: judyblags@btinternet.com • Web Login wk04

Dear Rugby Group Members,

At the time of writing I am very much looking forward to our AGM, an event to unite and cement the strength of our Group. Having spent some weeks tramping arduous trails on foreign soil, I can appreciate even more our green and pleasant land and the simple joys of walking with Rugby Ramblers. We do not operate in isolation, though; walks planned by other Groups, notably Coventry and Stratford, may help to fill gaps in our own programme and open up uncharted territory ... plus a 'free' recce experience!

Please note the date and venue of the Area AGM - Saturday February 11th 2023 at the Remembrance Hall, 10, Chester Road, Castle Bromwich B36 9DD at 10.30 a.m., with carvery lunch and afternoon walks - booking required by February 4th. Meanwhile there is a huge array of our own events to look forward to; we are grateful to all who contribute to organising and leading. With all good wishes for the festive season and let's look forward to a happy and healthy 2023

David Shaw - Acting Chairperson

QUIZ NIGHT

Following another very long delay, Barry and Tony are resurrecting our Quiz Night, to be held at Bilton Bowling Club on Monday 6th February 2023 kick off at 7.30 pm. The cost is £10 per head, to include a supper of jacket potato plus a choice of filling (beef chilli, cheese or tuna). We are looking for teams of 4, with prizes for the first 3 teams.

[Link to the booking form](#)

Book early to avoid disappointment!

PICTURES, SOUP AND PUDS

Tuesday 21st March 2023 - Bilton Bowling Club at 7.30 pm cost is £3 per head. The main priority of the evening will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of Rugby Ramblers.

[Link to the booking form](#)

SOS – Is there anyone you know/recommend who makes Celebration Cakes (up to 40 servings)? We need one making for our 50th Celebration event. Please contact me if you can help on Tel: 07736586545. Thank you - Pat Downton

NB By clicking the links for the above two events, you will be taken to the booking forms. They can also be found on the 'Walks Programme' section on our website, under the date of the event.



WILL IT OR WONT IT?

After several postponed dates since 2020, the Coach Trip looked close to being cancelled again in October due to rising costs. However, those who had booked were happy to pay a small additional amount to cover the coach and were rewarded with a fabulous day of walking, in and around Bath. It was great to meet up again with Rachael Davies, an 'old' Rugby Rambler who now lives in Bath, and thanks must go to her and Isobel (ably assisted by Ron Smith) for planning fine weather and a range of walks in such a lovely area.

NB At the time of writing, members of the committee are looking at planning a 2023 Spring coach trip. More information to follow - JUDY



Bath Walk. Photo by Alberto Shimamura

OBITUARY

We were sorry to hear of the passing of Robert Ratcliffe on 14th July 2022. Robert, along with his wife Pauline were regular walkers with our group since 1996. Unfortunately following a cycling accident, this curtailed Roberts walking and led to a slow decline in health until his death earlier this year. Our sympathy goes to Pauline and her family.

AND FINALLY – OVER AND OUT.

Due to personal reasons, this will be the last newsletter I shall be editing. I would like to thank Roland and Astrid for their help in enabling me to undertake this task, and before them, Clive who initiated and supported my work in producing the newsletter in its current format.

NAVIGATION COURSE

Six of our members attended the Level 1 National Navigation Award Scheme last month. Sean Brannigan and Bill Stubbins have since attended the Level 2 course (self-funded) and having completed all assessments, have now achieved the full award at this level. Many congratulations to them both - hopefully, in due course new leaders will emerge. Funding for 12 more places at Level 1 have now been confirmed. **Is this a course for you?** "The course was excellent for beginners wanting to know more about map reading and using a compass. The tutor, Derek Jones, has an immense amount of experience and has a friendly, witty, and effective style of teaching" (Bill Stubbins - November 2022) **and** "Derek was very patient with everyone and very knowledgeable..... Looking forward to the next level. Thanks Ramblers" (Sean Brannigan - November 2022). Watch this space!! - JUDY

EXPLORING ABERDEENSHIRE

I have had several holidays visiting Aberdeenshire - not seen as a tourist area and offering lower cost accommodation, it offers a great variety of walking including the east side of the Cairngorms.

Before my most recent visit I decided to seek out a local Ramblers group and found one in Stonehaven which offered two walks organised during my stay. I contacted the two leaders and found them helpful and welcoming and arranged to meet and share transport in Stonehaven. The first walk was alongside part of the river Dee with beautiful woodland along its banks, (see the picture of the Dee). The second walk was in the Cairngorms near the Glenshee skiing area. We started at 500m altitude and climbed three peaks over 1000m high; Carn an Tuirc, Cairn of Claise and Glas Maol. A fabulous day! - Roland Clarke



River Dee



Views near Glas Maol.

