



Cirencester Group 50

Wed 17 July. An evening walk around the town. A Skittles and fish & chips evening is being planned.

Cleeve Group 40

Sunday 18 August. Southam Village Hall. Day and Afternoon walks. Afternoon teas etc. History display board. 3pm cutting the cake.

Walking Together - Temple Guiting Sat 20 April

Over 70 walkers from various Groups and Clubs, met up for a clear day which included visits to medieval villages, a pub lunch and history talk. The Guiting Wood grasshopper must have wondered what was going on. North Cotswold Group organised the event and rounded up with tea, home made cakes, etc and an interesting talk on local place names.

Winchcombe Walking Festival Fri 17 to Sun 19 May



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Fix My Street
Report a path problem

Vacancies!

There are always opportunities to lend a hand.

Area Council Meetings

Wed, 31 July 7:30pm
Wed, 25 Sept 7:30pm

AGM Future Diary Date

Sat 18 Jan 2025, King's Stanley, South Cotswold

Find us: Meetup, Facebook



Ramblers again put on a display at the annual Winchcombe Walking Festival and walked part of Gerry Stewart's legendary St. Kenelm's Way.

The route includes the site of a number of springs and wells where it's said the body was laid over night on the journey from the Clent Hills to the now dismantled Abbey at Winchcombe.

Here walkers investigate St. Kenelm's Well, once a water supply for the town, close to Sudeley Castle.



Update on the A417 Scheme at the Air Balloon

With the Air Balloon Inn gone and the new route in construction across the countryside, National Highways is to hold workshop sessions to try to incorporate its original vision:-

"We want to create a landscape-led highways improvement scheme that will deliver a safe and resilient free-flowing road while conserving and enhancing the special character of the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; reconnecting landscape and ecology; bringing about landscape, wildlife and heritage benefits, including enhancing visitors' enjoyment of the area; improving local communities' quality of life; and contributing to the health of the economy and local businesses."

Resilience

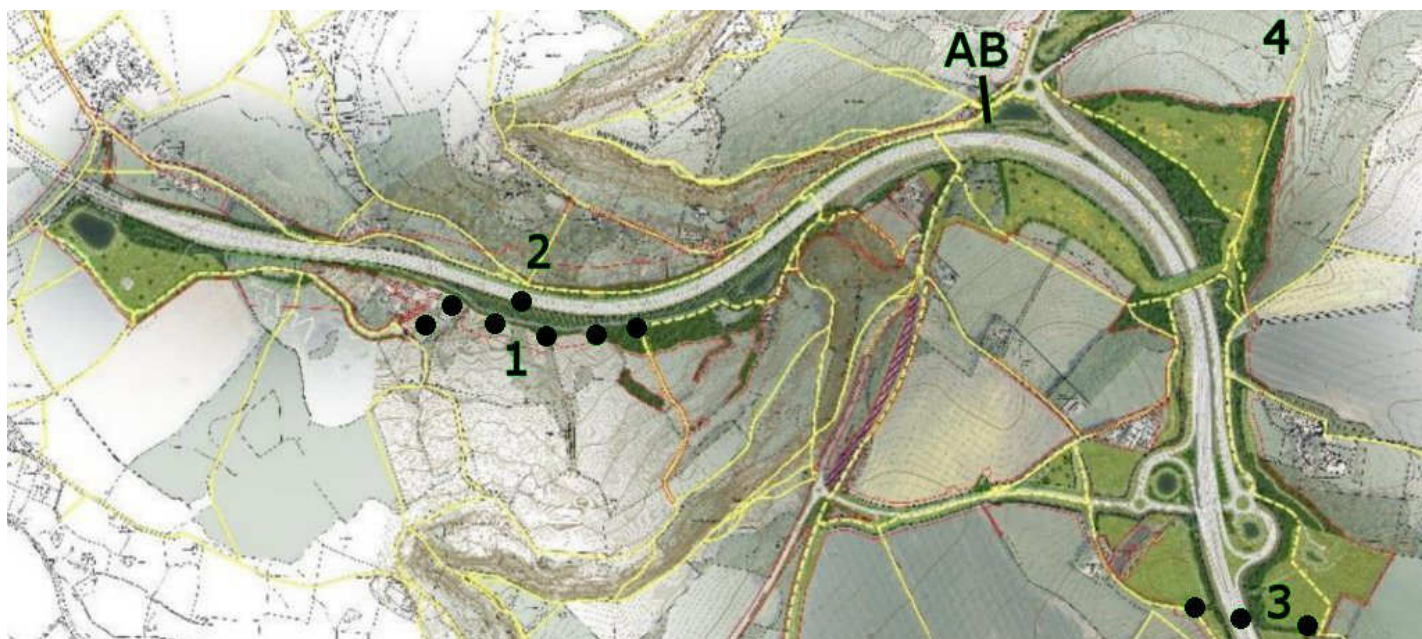
Currently when the A417 is closed the promoted diversion route includes the A40 and A46 through the streets of Cheltenham. Canny motorists are able to find convenient rat runs through villages. When the new road is operation, any blockage could result in the increased traffic using these same routes. The proposals retain the current A417 but closed to motor vehicles. Should it also be retained as a back up to provide resilience and keep through traffic away from local roads?

Visitor Enjoyment

The Air Balloon Inn (AB below) was popular for parking, refreshments and conveniences on the Cotswold and Gloucestershire Ways. Could some replacement be constructed within the space available when the roundabout is relocated, contributing to the local economy and perhaps providing heritage benefits too?

Missing Links

National Highways plan has some missing links numbered below (the Air Balloon roundabout is shown relocated to the Leckhampton Hill road junction).



Improved connectivity could be desirable for:-

1. A route for walkers near the south side of the new road from ABA84 to ABA86.
2. A link under the carriageway similar to a path where the M5 crosses the Stroud canal.
3. An underpass away from the busy new junction for the published Crickley Hill circular walk.
4. Just off the map - a suitable crossing of the A436 for Ullenwood and Barber Wood.

Please let us know your comments at A417@gloucestershireramblers.org.uk

Ramblers General Council 2024 at Birmingham NEC - Saturday 20 April

Our motion on Member Activities did not pass largely due to it becoming somewhat redundant as progress is being made. Members are now being mentioned as well as Volunteers and information is about to be transferred to the website to make it more available, away from the Assemble Volunteer system. A survey has been issued to try to understand the features required by Areas and Groups.

A Motion by North Strathclyde Area was passed which suggested that any proposed alternative approaches to election of Trustees should take care to ensure a balance of representation across GB.



Frances Cloke

It was sad to hear of the loss of a Member who was active at Area and in the past attended Ramblers General Council. Shown right with her late husband Ron, Frances was a member of Cotswold Rambling Club and also Mid-Glos Group where she became Chair between 2002 and 2007.



John Sheraton

John was one of those people who just got on and did things. He carried out a great amount of meaningful work for Forest of Dean Ramblers including walking booklets such that the Group became self sufficient and a funding contributor to Ramblers. He too will be sadly missed.

Some Group Activities

One of 59 Ramblers Areas, Gloucestershire has 8 Ramblers Groups: Cirencester, Forest of Dean, South Cotswold, Gloucester, Cleeve, North Cotswold, Gloucestershire Walking Group with its 20s-30s sub-group.

Gloucester Group

We have now started a three-monthly, rather than four-monthly, walking programme. This is helping fill the programme, but we're still seeking to welcome leaders to fill all our midweek and weekend slots. During our wetter than usual winter and spring, most walks have gone ahead, although numbers have been low at times. We recently tracked the Missing Link construction site and checked out the diverted footpaths. This was very popular and will be repeated next year.

Later this month, 16 members will join a walking holiday in the Dovedale area of the Derbyshire Peaks. We will stay at HF Holidays' Peveril of the Peak hotel. In July we have a guided tour of Owlpen Manor, near Uley, and will be holding our annual BBQ in a member's garden at Painswick.

John Bent-Marshall (Secretary)

gloucestershireramblers.org.uk/gloucester

South Cotswold Group

We continue to have a full walks programme with three walks a week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. We also realised that the demographics of our group had changed over the last couple of years with some of our newer and younger members wanting to walk further and at a faster pace so we have introduced one Saturday a month where there are two walks, one fast and long and one shorter and at a moderate pace. So far this seems to be working and we have managed to find leaders for both.

Following the success of our summer picnic walk last year (even if it did pour with rain) we decided to hold another one in July where members who no longer join walks can meet up with old friends and have lunch as well.

Ann Adams (Chair) southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

Green Footpath ETW6 reinstated at Twigworth

The images below show new housing at Twigworth. Thanks to pressure from Gloucester and Area Ramblers, the developer was able to retain a footpath through a green corridor between houses and hedgerows, a benefit for walkers and for wildlife.



Fix My Street and the County Council

How to report a Footpath Problem.

Go to our website page
gloucestershireramblers.org.uk/footpaths

Click where it says 'Fix My Street'.

A map should open at the centre of Gloucestershire.

Scroll and zoom to the place of interest or
 let it use GPS Location services for where you are.

Yellow marker pins highlight previous issues.
 Click a pin to report it again or to update it.
 More reports = Higher priority.

To report something:-

Click the map and select the type of issue.

Send a photo if you can e.g. this muddy gate.



Please also let us know by email at:-
FMS@gloucestershireramblers.org.uk



ETW6 further update - The County Council Public Rights of Way team cleared brambles from the gate.

