

Gloucestershire Walking Group 25th Anniversary Walk - Winchcombe - Snowhill circular.



GWG Members old and new, celebrate 25 years on a hot, breezy longest day, Sat 21 June. The Snowhill Arms kindly offered their skittle alley at lunchtime while Winchcombe Working Mens Club provided the after walk venue. Current Chair, Andy Mudd cut the cake with Mavis Rear, GWG's inaugurator.



Walking Together Saturday 10 May 2025 Witcombe and Bentham Village Hall



Cheltenham Rambling Club benefits from being an affiliate of Ramblers and kindly hosted the 6th Walking Together at Witcombe & Bentham Village Hall. Over ninety Members and visitors joined a variety of circular walks from the foot of the Cotswold escarpment near the new A417 road scheme and an ancient Roman villa. The sun shone throughout an active day which concluded with the host's impressive array of cakes, scones and cups of tea!

Area Council Meetings

Wed, 30 Jul 7:30pm

Wed, 24 Sep 7:30pm

Wed, 26 Nov 7:30pm

Looking ahead

Sat 17 Jan AGM Gloucester

Find us: Meetup, Facebook



The Ramblers' Association (Ramblers) is a registered charity (England & Wales no 1093577, Scotland no. SC039799) and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales (no. 4458492).

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Ramblers General Council AGM 2025

Sat 5 April at Birmingham NEC

A cake was brought to General Council in honour of Ramblers 90th Anniversary. It was in 1935, following the Kinder Scout mass trespass to retain access to the countryside, that the Ramblers Association was formed. Today 59 Areas make up the Association. Each appoint two representatives for a year. Our Membership Secretary and Walking Environment Officer attended.

As part of the agenda, some Members were willing to be proposed and four were elected to join the rest of the Board of Trustees to help with the direction of Ramblers in coming years.

Several motions to help the Trustees were debated including one on "Overcoming Barriers to Access" which sought to provide guidance on how to achieve the most accessible but viable option for structures on public paths. The motion also covered that heritage features e.g. historic stone boundary stiles and squeeze stiles could be retained for enjoyment of the countryside.

Governance Review

This is underway to try to understand whether the charity is effectively organised and the respective role of Nations, Areas and Groups. Currently there are over 500 Groups within the 59 Areas across England, Scotland and Wales representing over 105,000 members. Both Area and Group representatives are part of an ongoing consultation to provide input to the process including the way led walks operate and also about the legal and technical expertise needed for footpath challenges.

Ramblers Publicity

Ramblers charitable aims include publicising what we do. Professional Membership promoters regularly attend key events and were recently seen not too far away at Hay-on-Wye (photo above). Below, our stand was on display at the Gloucestershire Walking Together at Bentham and is shown ready for the Winchcombe Walking Festival. Both events took place in May just as spring turns into summer.

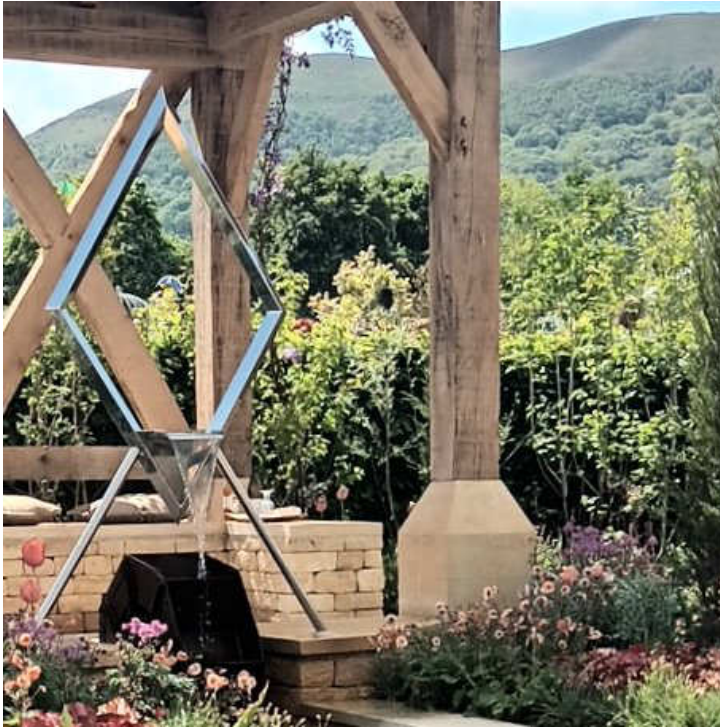




Some Group Activities

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.

North Cotswold Group



The Diamond Way was the theme of a garden at the Malvern Spring Show. Created by Joe Watson of Cotswold Estates and Gardens in Cirencester, it appeared on Gardeners World on Friday 9 May. In addition to the metal diamond with a lower water feature it included a mini watermill, lychgate, a typical Bourton-on-the Water low bridge, a ford and Cotswold stone walling.

It coincided with Sue Salmon collecting updates to publish an edition for Ramblers 90th Anniversary.

Originally created for Ramblers 60th in 1995 author Liz Bell is thrilled that the Group continues to support the Diamond Way.



Gloucester Group

Our midweek and weekend walks for April to June were well attended and another full programme for July to September will be issued shortly. These include several new walk leaders who are being encouraged to check Ramblers on-line course.

In May we held a First Aid Workshop, run by the British Red Cross, which was a great success and excellent value for money. Fifteen members attended and we will consider running another one next year. Future events include a walk and BBQ at Robinswood Hill on the 23rd July.

The photo shows us being escorted through the Missing Link site when Kier temporarily closed the Gloucestershire Way. Let's hope it continues to be kept clear as the work progresses. The trail will eventually use the wildlife green bridge which is also taking shape. John Bent-Marshall (Secretary)



South Cotswold Ramblers

On one of the hottest days so far this year, 19 South Cotswold Ramblers set off from Hatherop C. E. Primary School to walk along the River Coln and back through Coln St. Aldwyns before having lunch at the school which is raising funds to redevelop its facilities.

The Group continues to work with Stroud District Council to try to keep paths in green routes away from estate roads. The Severn Way is being monitored at Sharpness due to proposals to move it inland away from the river. At Didmarton a landowner is replacing some tricky stiles with gates to improve accessibility.





What does Gloucestershire Ramblers Area Do?

It's part of Ramblers structure of Members, Groups, Affiliates and Area :-

Gloucestershire Ramblers Area is

- Made up of Ramblers Groups & Affiliated Clubs
- Campaigns on common aims and goals
- Publishes this Member Update every 4 months
- Provides 2 representatives to Ramblers AGM
- Operated by Members across Gloucestershire

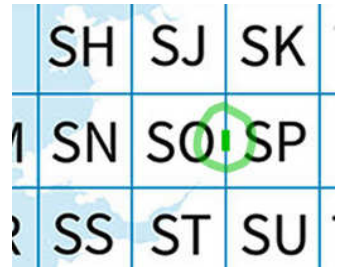
If you can lend a hand, please join us, email us.

If no-one did anything there would be nothing.
If everyone did nothing, there would be nothing.

With all of us, the paths we love to walk today,
should still be there for us to walk tomorrow.

A Jaunt for Gerry

Cleeve Group met with past members of Tewkesbury Walking Club at Alderton and were joined by Kate Ashbrook of the Open Spaces Society to remember Gerry Stewart. The image right, shows how Ordnance Survey grid references are based on 100km squares. The walk began with a note of the alignment of the SO SP boundary along St Margarets Drive before progressing to a path through a bluebell wood which Gerry ensured was available for us all to walk.



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