

Loughborough Ramblers Report 2023/24

The present membership of the Loughborough Group is about 140. Less than half of them are known to us through taking part in walks! We assume that the rest are people who support the aims of Ramblers nationally and find the magazine useful but don't want to join our Group walks.

Our walks programme over the last year has included two walks most weeks, with generally 10 to 20 people on mid week walks and about half that number on weekend walks. Mid-week walks have been around 5 – 8 miles, while the weekend walks were longer around 10 – 12 miles. We have been pleased to welcome visitors from other Groups and prospective members of Ramblers. The shortage of new walk leaders has continued and we really do need more members to volunteer to become leaders for the future.

About 40 of us enjoyed a coach trip to the Malvern Hills in April. The weather on the day was kind in contrast to the first recce by the walk leaders which was snowed off. We all had a lovely day. Other social events this year have included a Christmas lunch in Swithland, a skittles evening in February and an evening walk followed by a meal in Rothley in June. Many thanks to Sue Mears and others for organising these events. A team of our members were successful in winning the Area Quiz in November 2023 and repeated the feat this year; congratulations to them.

Last year Ted Wells decided to stand down as editor of Soar Feet and we have been fortunate that Tess Kay has agreed to take over. She has now produced two editions which are a useful source of information and which may encourage some of our invisible Ramblers Supporters to come out of the long grass and join in our Group walks and social events.

The Group Committee has held Committee Meetings during the year, and the AGM was held on Saturday 16th November. The AGM was attended by 16 members. Over the last year we have been without a Secretary, Membership Secretary and Footpaths Officer; The Chairman (Richard Jack) and also the Walks Coordinator and Web Manager (Dave Twigg), decided to stand down at this AGM. The membership elected a full Committee for 2024 - 25.

Richard Jack
Chairman
November 2024