

Ramblers Leicestershire & Rutland Area AGM 2025

Chair's Report

First of all, I must pay tribute to Stan Warren who passed away in October. Stan joined Leicestershire Ramblers in 1980. He became the Area footpaths officer, and also footpaths officer for the Leicestershire Footpaths Association, and fought many battles to keep footpaths open. He was one of those larger-than-life characters with wide-ranging interests; his passions included classical music and opera, steam locomotives, cider and pub crawls, and of course walking and the countryside. He did a huge amount for the cause of rambling in Leicestershire and Rutland, and should be an inspiration to us all.

As I come to the end of my 3-year term as Area Chair, I would like to thank my fellow members of the Area Committee, all Group committee members and walk leaders, and all of you who take part in walks and Ramblers activities, for keeping us going for another year as an active Ramblers area.

We're sorry to lose Richard Siddaway from the Area Committee after a year as a quite exemplary Area Secretary. Thank you, Richard for all your hard work over the past year. And thank you to John Samson who has joined the Committee, taking on the Communications role from Georgina Sear.

And without wishing to pre-empt the Area AGM in any way, I am very grateful to my predecessor as Chair, Martin James, who is standing for re-election as Chair. I'm sure that if elected he will do a great job as Area Chair, as he did before.

Finally, as I did last this time last year, I would encourage all members in the Area to think about becoming a walk leader or taking on a committee role if they don't already do so. Some might find it a daunting prospect but existing leaders and committee members are always happy to offer advice and guidance, and Ramblers training material can be found online too!

Rob