

Ramblins - February 2015

After an absence, Ramblins are back and there is a lot to catch up on. This issue includes updates on:

- Upcoming Weekends Away
- Upcoming Socials
- Recent Socials and request for feedback
- Walks and Walking Events
- Ramblers Training Day (free - walk leading, rights of way etc.)
- Ramblers News
- Committee News

Upcoming Weekends Away (details on website, www.s40wg.org)

3-6 April, Kettlewell - Accommodation for the upcoming Kettlewell weekend is now fully booked. However you are welcome to make your own accommodation arrangements and book on to the walks. Email swg40s@hotmail.co.uk for more details.

22-25 May, Seahouses - Surrounded by countryside with a sweep of incredible sea views towards the Farne Islands, Bamburgh Castle and with the Cheviot Hills as a backdrop, the bunkhouse is situated on a working farm on the superb Northumberland heritage coastline of Outstanding Natural Beauty, 1 mile from Seahouses and 3 miles from Bamburgh. Bunkhouse spaces are limited to 20, but members are welcome to make their own accommodation arrangements and book on to the walks.

26-28 June, Dentdale Music & Beer Festival - We are heading back to High Laning Camp site for our annual pilgrimage to Dent. This is where we can hang up our walking boots and enjoy the festival – Don't worry though – there's plenty of good walking here too if you want it!
28-31 August, The 40s Summer Getaway. Details to be confirmed.

2-4 October, Walking weekend at Chamois Centre, Llanberis - Accommodation at the centre is hostel / bunkhouse style. There will be 20 -24 places available for 2 nights in the centre costing approx. £40 each. Please note – Due to location and limited number of places available on walks, it is unlikely booking alternative accommodation is suitable for this weekend.

Upcoming Socials (details on website, www.s40wg.org)

6th March, 8:15pm - Peddler Market then Pub - Peddler Market in Sheffield offers an evening of good food and drink, live music, unconventional market stalls, pop up art gallery showcasing some of Sheffield's best artists, craft beer. The market also features an ever changing roster of fantastic street food vendors alongside a mountain of local and independent businesses peddling their wares. We shall move on when everyone has had enough of the market.

17th April, 8pm - S40WG's Academy Grand Oscars Awards Evening - After the BAFTA's, the Oscar's and the Golden Globes, the spotlight has moved to Sheffield and the swg40s Grand Academy Award Evening. This event is your opportunity to say "thank you" to all the walk leaders and other volunteers who have organised the great variety of walks and other events over the last year. Book your tickets in advance for an evening of entertainment and fun when the selected Nominees will be handed their awards.

1st and 2nd May - Philadelphia Beer & Blues Festival - Presented by Sax Bob at C.A.D.S., Snowlane Entrance, Shalesmoor, S3 7AL. Some of us will be attending the festival on the Friday and Saturday - please text 07795 203 867 to let us know you are coming.

Recent Socials and request for feedback

Recent socials have been held about once a month usually and have included Fish Chips & Northern Soul, a Motown Night, a visit to the White Lion and Brothers Arms at Heeley, a Chinese meal, the Christmas Party, a pub crawl and Chesterfield Beer Festival.

We would love to hear your comments from the Christmas Party - should we rebook the venue (ensuring there is beer next time). Would you be prepared to pay more if we included a barn dance or band, have you any other ideas re venue or alternative activity? Please email comments to swg40s@hotmail.co.uk.

Attendance at Saturday night socials has been poor and we would like to hear your feedback re Fridays or Saturdays.

Future events are being investigated including a visit to Genting club (Sheffield casino). A theatre trip has been asked for, but, which theatre and how would we co ordinate booking it? We are still waiting to hear the full line up for the Botanical Gardens in July and of course there will be Tramlines at the end of July. We welcome any suggestions and would be grateful for a member organised event.

Walks and Walking Events

We continue to put on three walks per weekend, thanks to our hard working walk leaders - full details here: [Walks Programme](#). Please always take the time to thank your walk leader after a walk - without their dedication we would not exist as a group.

We have had 47 different members lead walks in the last 12 months, and if you want to add yourself to that illustrious list we will provide help and support. You can also refer to our walks archive of over 300 walks to inspire yourself with a route, and save yourself some time: [Walks Archive](#)

25th April - Friends of the Peak District Walks - There will be a choice of four magnificent walks in the Hope Valley and Edale, ranging from a family-friendly four-mile ramble, through 9 or 14 milers, to the full iconic 20-mile Edale skyline. Details and registration form: www.friendsofthepeak.org.uk. Raj intends to do the 20 mile walk and will be happy to walk with anybody who wishes to do the same.

9-17 May - Chesterfield Walking Festival - A week of walks from 2 to 34 miles. 10th May is the 10th anniversary of the Chesterfield round walk - full distance is 34 miles at quite a speed but you can just do part of it. More details: [Chesterfield Walking Festival](#)

13th, 14th June - James's Long distance Dales 3 Peaks Walks - James is offering two walks in the Dales of 23 miles each. For more details please see the walks programme for June. Those wishing to walk on both Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th, to do the 3 peaks twice in one weekend, will be able to find a variety of suitable accommodation in or around Horton and Kettlewell - it is a D.I.Y. weekend!

Ramblers Training Day - Doncaster, 15th May, Free

On the 15th May, Ramblers are running a training day, free to all Ramblers members. Full schedule and booking form: [Training Day Booking Form](#) - note that you need to scroll down past the booking form to get to full descriptions of the sessions.

The training includes morning and afternoon sessions on a range of things, including:

- Leading walks - managing the group
- Leading walks - navigation skills
- Ramblers Routes
- Rights of Way
- The Big Pathwatch
- Running groups, areas, publicity etc.

Several of us are already booked on, so please email us at swg40s@hotmail.co.uk if you are also going.

Ramblers News

Ramblers Area AGM, 24th Jan - SYNED is the Ramblers Area that Sheffield 40s are a part of.

We had a presentation from Richard May, trustee. This included a briefing on the exciting Big Pathwatch project - details later in Ramblins.

We discussed the governance proposals. Suffice to say that nobody was happy at all, and we have submitted a motion to the General Council that the proposals be delayed to give time for proper consultation. The changes are massive, Ramblers has had the same governance system for decades and has achieved huge things in that time - it seems unlikely the governance is suddenly a problem - maybe Ramblers needs to look elsewhere...

We then elected the new Area Council and our delegates to the General Council in March 2015, with Allen Pestell and Jeremy Kenyon being elected.

The Big Pathwatch - This project aims to survey every right of way in England and Wales by gathering valuable data about the state of our path network. The project is planned to run from the beginning of June 2015 until early October 2015.

An app for smartphones is being produced. This will let you quickly and easily report a problem with a path, such as a broken stile, blocked path, overgrown path or missing signage. The app will automatically log the location for the report.

You can read more about the project here: [The Big Pathwatch](#)

Ramblers Area Council Meeting, 9th Feb - Raj Joshi was elected as Vice Chair for our Ramblers Area.

Protecting open spaces and woodland - It may be a shock to some of you to learn that landowners such as Derbyshire County Council can sell off what we assume public land, such as woodlands, or moorlands.

These spaces, just like the ones we played in as a kids, are an important community resource. They are where we get away from computers and jobs, where our kids climb trees and play in streams and generally get to be kids. Losing this type of land will be a tragedy for current and future generations.

Terry Howard (Area president) described how the land can be protected by the local authority 'Dedicating' such land under Section 16 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

The plan is for people to apply pressure to Derbyshire County Council to adopt this measure. This can be by writing to your councillors or MP about this issue. Guidance will be issued, but if you know of a particular piece of land, that is up for sale but should be a community asset, please email us at swg40s@hotmail.co.uk

Committee News

Dennis Crossland has stepped down as Weekends Coordinator. The role has now been distributed between the rest of the committee, with Jean, Jill and Sue taking point.

The group is growing larger; we welcome everyone and hope you are enjoying the walks, fun and friendships that we all create together. If you would like to get involved in organising walks or helping the committee please speak to a committee member or email the Group email (swg40s@hotmail.co.uk).

Raj Joshi - Chair
Sue Killeen - Walks Coordinator
Jean Billingham - Socials Coordinator
Jill Brogden - Treasurer
Jeremy Kenyon - Web Editor
Alan Plimmer - Membership Secretary
Bev Kenyon - Group Secretary

Happy Walking,

Your Committee