

ANNUAL REPORT OF RMBLERS CYMRU CARDIFF GROUP FOR 2022-2023

This year marks the fortieth anniversary of the Group and we decided to celebrate by having forty favourite walks in the programme of walks. These were chosen by leaders to go in the programme throughout the year and leaders were encouraged to ensure that images of these walks went onto the website and Facebook.

A twice-yearly walks programme booklet continues to be sent out to members. At last year's AGM there was a motion asking for this to be stopped but the motion was soundly defeated, so it is clear the membership values receiving these booklets which give them a physical reminder of what walks the Group is offering throughout the year. In addition, it was felt that such a booklet was tangible evidence for members may not walk with us of their connection to the Group. Being a group with over around 650 members it is difficult otherwise to ensure that we remain in touch with all our members.

So, once again, many thanks to all the walk leaders who provide the huge variety of walks that provide something for everyone; with walks ranging from 4 to 17 miles on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays plus Thursday evening walks in the summer. A selection of these walks are coach trips, so many thanks to Karen Walters who has taken on the job of organising these events. All have proved successful with each being sold-out despite the increase in price of tickets and the need for them to be bought in advance. Thanks also to Roma Whiteley who organised a very successful back-packing walk of the recently-created Snowdonia Slate Trail in May.

The work of putting a programme together has been very much a team effort: thanks must go to Jan Aplin, Leighton Hill, Barry Southwell and Gwyn Lewis who act as co-ordinators and inspire leaders to put forward walks for each programme; thanks also to Andrew Price, the Publications Officer, for putting it all together ready for the printers. Thanks also to Jean Board, our new Membership Secretary, for organising the mail-out and Mike Kohnstamm, Webmaster, for the uploading of the information onto the website and The Ramblers walks' database.

All this has all been done despite the fact that we still lack a a Rambles Officer; so we are still on the look-out for someone who is willing to co-ordinate all the work needed to produce a programme, which has at least half-a-dozen walks per week. It has also been done whilst labouring to integrate the new Walks Manager system with our ways of creating a walks programme. It is clear that we need to encourage walk leaders to adopt these new ways of providing walks for members and hope in the coming months to ensure walk leaders are *au fait* with the new system; this has started with a series of training sessions in October.

Trevor Whateley, a staunch supporter of the Group, died last year and left a legacy to Ramblers Cymru which was passed on to us. In consultation with his family, it was decided to erect four kissing gates in the Pentyrch-Creigiau area. These have now been installed to the benefit of walkers in the area. Also on the footpath front, thanks must go to Jan Aplin and Sue Johns for checking-out the walks that are to be found in ***Capital Walks II*** and ensuring that the details of them on our website are now up-to-date.

The Group has made objections to proposals that would affect the enjoyment of walking in Cardiff. One relates to the revival of a proposal to build housing on open in Danescourt (the De Braose development); another to the nature of a diversion of Footpath 28 in Lisvane due to a planned housing development; then, at the beginning of October, a number of objections were raised to inappropriate site development proposals for the Replacement Local Development Plan.

Finally, we have started WhatsApp group for Saturday walks to allow those who want a lift to contact with prospective car-drivers. It seems to be working well and we are looking to extend it to Wednesday walks.

We will be hosting the Area AGM on Saturday 18th November and look forward to welcoming delegates from the other groups to the Lisvane Community Centre and the beautiful countryside that is on its doorstep.

Diane Davies