

Trafford Ramblers AGM 2022

Walks Coordinator report 1 December 2021 - 30 November 2022

Firstly thank you to all the walk leaders, who continue to come up with interesting and varied walks throughout the year. Without them there would be no walks programme.

Our walks this year:

- By the end of November, 19 walks leaders will have led 80 walks.
- There has been at least one walk every Thursday apart from on the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June and on an extremely hot day in August when the walks were cancelled for safety.
- There were 13 Monday or Tuesday walks led by Andy, Neil, Rob and David W.
- As well as the usual country walks and the seasonal interest of bluebells and autumn colours, we have had some special interest walks such as sections of the Witton Weavers Way (Lesley), the Bleaklow crash sites (Andy), urban Chorlton and Didsbury (David G), Eyam plague village (Richard), a Christmas Mince Pie walk (Vicky and Richard), and five walks North Wales (Andy and Nigel).
- David W led some more strenuous walks around Edale and Hayfield and Kath T led a walk over the Fairfield Horseshoe in the Lake District.
- We have walked in Greater Manchester, Derbyshire, Lancashire, Staffordshire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, Merseyside, North Wales, and Cumbria.

Numbers of walkers

Numbers post-Covid restrictions have been high, frequently in double figures and sometimes in the 20s. Numbers on moderate plus walks have been lower.

What was new:

- From April 2022 where a more difficult or distant walk has been programmed, an easier alternative walk has also been offered where possible. This seems to be popular with members, but has of course reduced the number of walks offered on alternative days to Thursday, and does split the group.
- Four new walk leaders came forward: Kath T, David W, Christine and Chris. Thanks to all of them.
- Pre-booking has been established as the norm. This was introduced to cope with Covid restrictions but it has proved popular with the walk leaders and so it has been retained. Pre-booking enables the walk leader to contact the group in advance with any additional information, and avoids the (unusual!) situation of a leader turning up and having no walkers.
- From 1 December Ramblers introduced mandatory risk assessments. We have added a section to the walk description for a brief description of any hazards. This is working well.
- We now ask walkers to let the walk leader know of any health issues which they might need to be aware of.

Rosie Hurley

Continued

Saturday Strollers report

Numbers attending the fortnightly Saturday Strolls have remained high with the group regularly splitting using two or three leaders. Lesley, Sheila and Kas are the regular leaders with Angela and Rosie stepping in when needed.

From the 1st January to the start of November there have been 375 strollers with numbers ranging from 17-30 per walk.

Strollers mainly live in Trafford, though we do have regular walkers who travel from North Manchester to join us. The stroll routes are within Trafford or less than 30 minutes drive away. For example; Urmston Meadows, Carrington Moss, Tatton Park, Lymm, Worsley, Plumley.

The 3rd November 2022 was the tenth anniversary of the first stroll which was a short walk around Dunham Massey. Since then we have built up a portfolio of almost 40 stroller routes to choose from.

Sheila Kabbani