



FOREST NEWS

Editor: Ronnie Walker

Forest of Dean
Group



NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome is extended to new members who have joined the Group since the last Forest News.

Membership is now 207. (We gained 4 members)

PROGRAMME DEADLINE

- **November 2019 to February 2020 programme.**
E-mail: walks@fodramblers.org.uk

Details of walks for the next programme should be submitted no later than 8th October, directly onto the Group website if possible (www.fodramblers.org.uk), or to the walks co-ordinator. Any member, whether old or new, is welcome to lead a walk. Anyone who wants to borrow books of walks or who needs help to organise a walk, please contact any Committee member.

A big thank you goes to everyone who has led a walk since the last newsletter was published.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

I am proud to announce the AGM has been scheduled for:- Friday 8th November 2019 at Yorkley Community Centre (more details will be emailed nearer the time). Bring and share supper, tea or coffee to follow the meeting.

We need a New Membership Secretary !

We need an assistant Webmaster!

If you fit the bill please step forward.

Secretary,
Jackie Huck

Holiday in June 2020 based in Keswick.

Sunday 14th June – 21st June

Skiddaw Hotel situated in the centre of Keswick

www.skiddawhotel@lakedistricthotels.net

Dinner, bed & breakfast
Coach travel & transport throughout holiday

2 walks daily:- 1. Easy to moderate

2. moderate to energetic

Accommodation singles (limited number), mixture of twins & doubles, some family suites available, (2 rooms plus shared bathroom)

Costing £595 (provisional, there may be a single Supplement)

Deposits £50 will secure your place.

Sue Marshall
18 Trafalgar Close
Monmouth NP25 5DR
Email soozie1946@outlook.com
07808150741
01600 772034

Now for a piece of sad news:

Mike Ingleby has been forced, due to bad health (feet problem), to give up all his rambling activities.

We, the committee, and all of us wish him all the luck in the world.

Ronnie Walker
Editor

More walks and a first aid course.

This is a plea to all for more walks and walk leaders.

We would like to hear from you if you wish to take part in a day course in respect of First Aid.

Drop a line to the Secretary as soon as possible,

Secretary,
Jackie Huck

DFR St Mary's Footbridge Opening

The 9th March started unpromisingly with high winds and heavy rain, a daunting prospect for the afternoon celebrations. Thankfully the weather was calmer and brighter for the event in the afternoon.

Gallery

Four members represented the Ramblers and assembled at the Whistle Café at 1.30 for a generous supply of sandwiches and hot drinks. The first train of the season Prairie Tank Loco 5541 took us to Lydney Junction where the engine was transferred to the front of the carriages to take us to St Mary's Halt. Robin and Susan were there to greet the train, as were many other locals and enthusiasts.

Disembarking from the train was the Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, Mr Edward Gillespie OBE DL, resplendent in his velvet coat and breeches with lace trimmings and carrying his ceremonial sword. He officiated at the opening ceremony; accompanied by the Mayor of Coleford, Cllr Nick Penny.

Cheltenham Band greeted all the passengers as they assembled on the platform. Once the speeches were over it was exciting to watch the engine moving forward to dramatically cut the ribbon, directly under the footbridge.

Of particular interest to ramblers, there are now four footpaths linked by the footbridge, FLY 18/19/20 and 21. The footbridge now unites the people on St Mary's side of the railway with the people on the lake side of the railway. A great deal of work and many organisations were involved in raising the money, providing the preparation and the renovation: including a contribution from the FoD Ramblers. The restoration of the footbridge is a great asset to the people in Lydney, for recreation and community links through the footpath system. The train returned everyone to Norchard Station where a mouth-watering hog roast and free beer was served. One Rambler (who shall remain nameless) was particularly delighted to an almost inexhaustible supply of sandwiches and cake to accompany the free beer.

The DFR combined the occasion with a long service ceremony, very impressive, starting with several 10 year awards and rising to a few 40 year awards; one of which went to Martin Hillier, who is also a Forest of Dean Rambler.

Barbara Fisher
Reporting for the Forest News Letter



On top of Yr Eifl on the Llyn Peninsula, 11th May 2019
The Editor,
Ronnie

<https://www.fodramblers.org.uk/>

Here is a reminder that our website is as above.

Please renew your favourite with it. Our site holds details of our current program and some details of previous programs.

Any suggestions for improvements are welcomed.

Regards
The Editor
Ronnie

GO Outdoors: Extra Discount

GO Outdoors are offering members of Ramblers a further 10% discount off the 10% discount card. That means a minimum of 10% off the RRP with the discount card plus another 10% off for members of "Ramblers". All you need to do is show your Ramblers membership card as proof of membership at the payment desk in store.

EDITORIAL CONTACT DETAILS

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Late News :-

There are only 712 books left to sell.

Next year's 29th February walk is on a Monday, Broadoak to Lydney via Awre! A record will be set!

Footnote:-

**** Life is like a mountain climb, a quest to reach the top. Each stopping point represents the goal one sets for oneself while each climb represents the journey to achieve it. ****