



# 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 206. (We lost 1 member)

## PROGRAMME DEADLINE

- **March 2020 to June 2020 programme.**  
E-mail: [walks@fodramblers.org.uk](mailto:walks@fodramblers.org.uk)

Details of walks for the next programme should be submitted no later than 4<sup>th</sup> February, directly onto the Group website if possible ([www.fodramblers.org.uk](http://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

The AGM will be held on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at Yorkley Community Centre.

Bring and share supper, tea or coffee to follow the meeting. There will be a free to enter raffle – prizes galore!

We need a New Membership Secretary!  
We need an assistant Webmaster!  
If you fit the bill please step forward.

Please arrive between 7:30pm and 7:45pm for a prompt start to the evening. I hope to see you all there.

AGM papers will be emailed out to our members however If you would prefer to receive hard copies in advance of the meeting then please contact Jackie at [secretary@fodramblers.org.uk](mailto:secretary@fodramblers.org.uk) or phone her on 01594 564417. There will be some hard copies available at the AGM.

Secretary,  
Jackie Huck

## Holiday in June 2020 based in Keswick.

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June – 21st June

Unfortunately due to lack of participant, we have had to cancel this holiday.

My, thanks go to Sue for all her efforts.

Ronnie Walker  
Editor

## Christmas Walk and Lunch

Short woodland walk followed by Christmas Lunch at the Orepool Inn, Sling on Saturday November 30, 2019

**Walk starts at 10:00 am Lunch booked for 1.30pm**

**Numbers are limited so book as soon as possible.**

Please can you post your menu choices, name, address, tel no and send them with a cheque PAYABLE TO OREPOOL INN FOR £16 per person to Forest of Dean Ramblers, c/o P Robbins, 41 Cornpoppy Avenue, Monmouth, NP25 5SD by SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2ND.

**.....and most importantly the MENU.....**

### Starters

Homemade Vegetable Soup served with a Brown Crusty Roll  
Fruit Juice  
Garlic, Herb and Cheese Pate  
Prawn Cocktail

### Main Course

Roast Turkey served with Traditional Trimmings & Homemade Rich Gravy  
Roast Beef served with Homemade Yorkshire Pudding & Rich Gravy  
Homemade Nut Roast served with Vegetarian Gravy  
Sea Bass served in a Sage Butter on a bed of Sautéed Potatoes

### Desserts

Christmas pudding served warm with Brandy Sauce  
Homemade Chocolate Orange Sponge Pudding with Ice Cream  
Homemade Blackcurrant Cheesecake served with Cream  
Homemade Sherry Trifle and Tea & Coffee

Jenny and Pete Robbins

## **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

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### **Gallery**



Hazel in flower in February, roll on the spring.

The Editor,  
Ronnie

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## **Ramblers on Tour**

A few weeks ago four Forest Ramblers ( John Baker, John and Diane Bevan, and Ian Walding) ventured on an adventure to the Far East, namely to see the Singapore F1 race around the streets of the city. After a two leg flight ( London to Abu Dhabi and Abu Dhabi to Singapore) we arrived safely and as the doors of the terminal building slid open we thought what has happened to the temperature, it was 35 degrees and very humid for the duration of our stay, only dropping to around 30 degrees in the evening and overnight. Thankfully we didn't have any monsoon downpours, it only raining briefly on the day we were returning. We spent several hours on Friday, Saturday and Sunday in our grandstand seats watching the action (the race was floodlit and held from 8pm to 10pm on Sunday), our seats were close to the track and immediately

opposite us was a large screen, so we saw all the action. The backdrop to the race from our position was amazing, probably the best of any F1 race of the year. We were looking over Marina Bay and opposite to us was the Marina Bay Sands hotel complex (3 towers 56 floors high with a infinity pool on the top). Being late evening all the skyscraper buildings and hotels around the bay were lit up, and as soon as the winner crossed the line there was an incredible fireworks display. Apart from the race action we had time to see many parts of the city which we all decided was a great holiday destination without the race to add to the appeal. All in all it was a great visit.

Ian Walding, Roving Report for the Newsletter

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## **Nature corner: The COOT**

Both sexes have a patch of bare skin on their foreheads called a frontal shield, thus giving rise to the expression "bald as a coot". Flooded quarries make excellent homes, and attract large flocks. The coot jump-dives for submerged plants, then bobs up to the surface to eat them. Males fight fiercely when claiming territory. Nests, made of reeds, are large and raised above water levels. Sexes are alike. The adult coot measures up to 15 inches long.

Regards  
The Editor  
Ronnie

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## **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.

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## **EDITORIAL CONTACT DETAILS**

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*Late News:-*

*There are only 690 books left to sell.*

*Even later News:-*

*Waliday will be happening – See Ronnie*

*Footnote:-*

*\*\*\* If there are no footpaths and there are no ramblers and there are no friends, what a dull world this would be! \*\*\**