



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 186. (We gained 5 members)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Forest of Dean Ramblers' walks have restarted.

Walk leaders are invited to put walks on to the draft program.

We have a booking clerk who will publish them for members to book them during the booking period – 5 to 3 days before the ramble. All attendees must book the walk.

We respectfully ask you to observe the following:-

**If you are unwell do not book or attend a led walk.
If you don't have a confirmed booking, don't turn up on spec. You will be turned away.**

Your booking clerk is Ronnie Walker.

The Chair's Message.

We are pleased to announce The Forest of Dean Ramblers have restarted their walks adhering to advice issued by Ramblers Central Office to minimise any risk to walkers during the Covid 19 pandemic. Many leaders are reluctant to take on the extra responsibility of these new rules, and I would like to thank Ann and Ronnie for sorting out the risk assessments and bookings, and leading the first two walks.

I hope everyone is still walking, and if you are unable to join in Ramblers walks, do keep walking with family or friends. I speak for all the committee when I say we all look forward to returning to normality as soon as possible.

Stay safe and best wishes,

Peter Robbins
Chair FOD Ramblers

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020

The AGM this year will be notified to you closer to the expected due date of Friday 6th November 2020.

Although it can be held any time from 1st October to 31st December, as long as it's before the Area AGM.

We shall be holding an email AGM. So watch your inboxes for a novel meeting.

We need willing volunteers for posts for 2021/22, so if you have a talent give us a shout.

Ronnie Walker
Editor

What is new in the Forest:-

Here are some changes:-

The village of Tintern has a "20 mile per hour" speed limit through the whole of the village.

Bulwark, Chepstow has a "20 miles per hour" speed limit on all roads. There are hard humps too, approach them with caution.

The small car park formerly known as "Boys Grave" is no more – blocked by boulders. The car park opposite Cannop Ponds is closed for good.

Coleford roads have been renewed, they are wonderful.

Longhope, Church Road has been resurfaced.

And further afield:

Roadworks to report; Junction 11 M5 roundabout changes and Arle Court Roundabout changes too. The road to Cheltenham is not pretty.

The Editor
Ronnie Walker

Gallery



Well it's a Fungi snapped in the Forest on 16/09/2020.

The Editor,
Ronnie

Nature corner:



The Fox – Vulpes Vulpes

Foxes are small to medium sized, omnivorous mammals belonging to the genera of the family Canidae. Foxes have a flattened skull, upright triangular ears, a pointed, slightly upturned snout and a long bushy tail.

Twelve species belong to the monophyletic "true foxes" group of genus Vulpes. Approximately another 25 current or extinct species are always or sometimes called foxes; these foxes are either part of the paraphyletic group of the South American foxes, or of the outlying group, which consists of the bat-eared fox, grey fox, and island fox. Foxes live on every continent except Antarctica. By far the most common and widespread species of fox is

the red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) with about 47 recognized subspecies. The global distribution of foxes, together with their widespread reputation for cunning, has contributed to their prominence in popular culture and folklore in many societies around the world.

One of the most famous foxes is Basil Brush with his "Boom, Boom" catch phrase.

The hunting of foxes with horse and hounds was finally banned in the UK in February 2005.

Ronnie Walker
Editor

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:-

Forest of Dean rambling restarted 30th September 2020. Long may we walk the by-ways and paths of the forest?

It was the standard weather for Ronnie's restart ramble – heavy black clouds followed by heavy rain. It pushed us on to an early finish, which was not good for us all. Hopefully future rambles are less stressful – weather wise. Bookings on-line are available 5 to 3 days before day of the ramble.

The booking clerk says "Happy rambling one and all".

Footnote:-

**** What is a yard; well a yard is 3 foot long. ****
