



SOUTH DEVON RAMBLERS

40th AGM

WEDNESDAY 16th NOVEMBER 6.30 for 7pm

Livermead House Hotel, Torbay Road, Torquay TQ2 6QJ

A G E N D A

1. Welcome – Housekeeping – Apologies
2. Officer Reports:
 - Chairman - EE
 - Treasurer & Independent Examiner - CB
 - Membership Secretary - DW
 - Secretary - KH
 - Walks Co-ordinator - NW
 - Footpath Officer and John Musgrave Heritage Trail Officer - BW
 - Social Committee – JE, VR, PJ
3. Election of Officers – Nominations Received
4. South West Coast Path – Lesley Wilkin will advise on progress to date
5. Future Plans
 - Club Holidays - BW
 - Templer Way - BW
 - Leaders Training - NW
 - First Aid Training – PJ/VR/JE
 - Social Events - PJ/VR/JE
6. A.O.B.
Feedback, questions or queries invited.



Chairman's Report for AGM November 2022

Summary of the year

It has been another busy year for South Devon Ramblers. Following the AGM, Karen took on the role of Secretary after Tessa stood down. Karen has had a very successful year and has contributed in full to all SDR activities bringing with her a wealth of knowledge about local history.

In December we enjoyed a Christmas Lunch at the Dainton Golf Club organised by our Social Committee.

Into the new year 2022 and in February some of our members attended the Area AGM at The Watermark, Ivybridge. Unfortunately, Devon Area was put into abeyance because a number of key officers' roles could not be filled.

February also saw another successful social event at Rockfish, where we were also entertained by Missin' Tackle.

In April we had a few days in Ifracombe where we finally enjoyed the long-awaited trip to Lundy Isle. This break also included a few days of walking the SWCP for those participating in the project.

We had the formal launch of the Dartmoor Way during the bank holiday weekend at the end of April and beginning of May. This event had previously been delayed due to the pandemic. It was a successful weekend and SDR offered 3 walks for the launch programme.



Later in May some members enjoyed another wonderful mini break organised by Bob and Nicky. This time we ventured to Pembrokeshire and took in some spectacular coastal walks as well as visiting Tenby and St.Davids.

In July we had a very successful 40th Anniversary celebration lunch at the Berry Head Hotel which was attended by 60 members, former members and friends and preceded by a walk around the area. We had a slideshow depicting memorable events over the past 40 years with officers past and present relating the formation of the JMHT and reflecting on the importance receiving foreign holidays. Karen did an introduction reflecting on how different life was back in '82. Thanks to Paddy, Janet and Val for organising this event and to Bob and Julian for the slideshow.

The long-awaited holiday to the Lake District finally took place in September. We were fortunate to have fine weather enabling the Lake District to be showcased at its glorious best. Spectacular long and shorts walks were enjoyed each day. Many thanks to Bob, Richard and Lesley for leading the walks.

The Skiddaw Hotel and Blakes Coaches exceeded expectations which made a major contribution to most successful holiday.

The social events continued with Val organising another enjoyable event at the Plymouth Gin Experience.

Business as usual

Of course, whilst all the above was going on Nicky has managed to produce a full and varied walks programme for summer and winter. This is proving to be more difficult in recent years as for various reasons we have lost input from some of our most experienced leaders. Thank you to those new members who have contributed to the walks programme; it has really been appreciated.

Bob has managed to maintain our much-cherished JMHT and kept on top of footpaths issues as they arise. In addition, Bob has contributed to the Don't Lose Your Way project as well as providing a major input to organising our mini break and the Lake District holiday.



Bob, Nicky, Richard and I went out to monitor part of our adopted section of the Dartmoor Way. We walked from Dartbridge to Ashburton and fitted way markers to new signposts which had been put in since our last check and fixed others from causing confusion.

Our finances remain in good health thanks to Celia's astute management. We have contributed £500 for the restoration of the SWCP at St. Mary's Bay and adopted the revised mileage rate for our volunteers.

Our membership also remains healthy despite fluctuations over the past few months. Dorothy assures me that this is quite normal and has shown me a graph showing the fluctuating trends over the years since she started producing her impeccable records.

Julian has re-organised our website over the past year and kept on top of any security issues we have encountered.

We decided to postpone this year's SWCP Challenge until next year when it will be the association's 50th anniversary and possibly the completion of our own SWCP project for some of our members.

Thank you to all the committee for your contributions and support over the last year.

Eric Evans
Chairman



TREASURER'S REPORT FOR SOUTH DEVON RAMBLERS AGM NOVEMBER 16th 2022

THE SOUTH DEVON GROUP OF THE RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT - for the year ended 30th September 2022						
	£	£	£	£	£	£
MAIN ACCOUNT						
Balance brought forward			253.54			774.49
INCOME						
From Area	990.00			770.00		
Website link - The Dry Boot Company	25.00					
Website Link - The Berry Head Hotel	25.00					
Ramblers Holidays - Programmes & Website	100.00					
		1,140.00			770.00	
EXPENDITURE						
Devon Highlights postage				11.90		
Cost of printing programmes	150.00			150.00		
Cost of printing leaflet Exeter walk	18.00					
Cost of ctte meetings	90.00			50.00		
Cost of AGM 10th Nov 2021	100.00			73.39		
Deposit AGM 16th Nov 2022	50.00					
Web site maintainance	428.64			410.24		
Web site uograde	79.50					
Dartmoor Way				500.00		
Thank you gift				30.00		
Bank charges	0.30					
Officers Expenses - Chairman	50.98					
Officers Expenses - Secretary				29.98		
Officers Expenses - Treasurer						
Officers Expenses -Membership Secretary	18.08			35.44		
Officers Expenses -Footpath Officer						
Officers Expenses - Social Ctte	39.80	1,025.30	114.70		1,290.95	- 520.95
Balance at Unity Bank			368.24			253.54
Restricted Internal payment						
DLYW		75.00	75.00			

Independent Examiners Report

Having carried out procedures in accordance with the Area and Group independent examination guidelines, I consider the accounts to give a fair representation of the Group's financial activities for the year to 30 September 2022

W G Coles
12/10/22
W G Coles
Independent Examiner

SELF FINANCING						
	2022			2021		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	Income	Expenditure	Net	Income	Expenditure	Net
Balance b/fwd			1521.54			1,511.54
Christmas lunch 10th Dec 2021	851.90	861.90	- 10.00	10.00		10.00
Fish supper at Rockfish Brixham 25th February 2022	500.00	580.00	- 80.00			
Lundy Trip 26th April 2022	817.00	726.00	91.00			
Ceilidh 13th May 2022	200.00	200.00	-			
40th Anniversary 5th July 2022	1,240.00	1,278.20	- 38.20			
RWH Reward	50.00		50.00			
LDH 2022 11th - 15th September 2022	17,353.00	17,353.09	- 0.09			
Canoeing Friday 15th July 2022	375.00	375.00	-			
Donation N Dartmoor search and rescue		20.00	- 20.00			
Gin experience 12th October 2022	148.50		148.50			
Bank charges		20.10	- 20.10			
			1,642.65			1,521.54
Dr M Mason Legacy						
Balance b/fwd			41.95			41.95
High Viz jackets						
			41.95			41.95
Balance at Unity Bank			2,127.84			1,817.03

John Musgrave Legacy						
	2022			2021		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME						
Balance b/fwd			23,525.32			23,359.85
Sale of books - JMHT				134.00		
Sale of books - Soles of South Devon	15.00					
Sale of badge	6.00			15.00		
Interest	50.01			228.20		
		71.01			377.20	
EXPENDITURE						
Bank charges						
Officers Expenses	16.25			35.81		
Maintenance of trail	204.98			143.92		
Purchase of guillotine	28.93					
SWCPA St Marys project	500.00					
DLYW				32.00		
		750.16			211.73	
Transfer to Hampshire Trust Bank		- 20,000.00			- 20,000.00	
Balance at Unity Bank			2,846.17			3,525.32
Balance at Hampshire Trust Bank			20,000.00			20,000.00
TOTAL			22,846.17			23,525.32

Celia Broom
Treasurer



MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR SOUTH DEVON RAMBLERS AGM Nov 16th 2022

From Central Office the membership numbers have averaged 237 during the last year. As at September 2022 the membership stands at **230**, this is 16 less than the September 2021 level.

Average numbers of members on walks:-

	Oct 21 to Sep 22	Oct 20 to Sep 21
Sunday	12.0	10.5
Thursday	19.2	18.9
OSE	22.8	16.6
TSW	10.4	13.0
Total	16.0	14.7

The average number of walkers on walks is higher for Sunday, Thursday, and OSE and lower for TSW.

Last year's numbers were affected by Covid 19 restrictions.

A total of 231 individuals walked at some time during the year, of which 111 were associated by Central Office to South Devon Ramblers.

Of the list of members from Central Office 48% have walked at least once during the last year.

Five walks were cancelled during the year, for forecasts of heavy rain and flooding. Two walks were cancelled for extreme heat forecast.

The miles covered by people on all the walks was 13,679 miles. This is the equivalent of walking over half of the way around the equator. Over the 13 years that I have been collecting the information we have collectively walked around the equator nearly eight and a half times.

Dorothy Webley
Membership Secretary



Secretary's Report for SDR AGM

16th November 2022

Almost a year in post and I am getting more familiar with the set up and timescales of the admin work and have met many more of you on walks and social events.

It has been a busy year with various events and two full walks programmes, as Eric has summarised. The 40th Anniversary was very successful. I have been able to raise our profile, locally via Herald Express and Torbay News, as well as 'The Beach Hut' and nationally you may have spotted a letter in Walk Magazine with a picture of our 40th Anniversary Walk. I have brought some examples for you to see if you missed them.

I also keep the Facebook site alive with walk posts and promote regional and public events like the Dartmoor Way opening. We are looking at streamlining the Gallery on our website as it is currently overloaded and too slow – a work in progress but it is improving I hope you'll agree.

I am keen on local history, belonging to the Paignton Heritage Society and will be leading a history walk in the Spring around *Old Exeter*, where I once worked. I am hoping to do similar in the next programme for *Paignton and Goodrington*, if anyone is interested.

Thanks to all for your patience and support, as I continue to navigate the role, especially Tessa who is always on hand for questions and of course the Committee, who work hard behind the scenes to keep everything running smoothly. If you do have any suggestions for improvement or general questions about the Club and how it works - please do contact me, I have an email secretary@southdevonramblers.com which I check regularly.

Karen Howes
Secretary



SDR Footpath and JMHT Officer's - AGM 2022 Report

As Footpath Officer

I check on the occasional path modification order and major construction projects that may affect rights of way. For example, quarries, housing developments and road schemes (A382).

As JMHT Officer

70% monitors have given their reports for summer 2022. Many thanks to the monitors. Outstanding issues which will be fixed in the coming months. Have lost one monitor so looking for a volunteer.

Have had really good feedback from a couple of walkers and the website description continues to be updated as a result.

DLYW

Not much activity since the deadline for 2026 has been removed. However, there is movement to get records from Kew digitized.



Report of Walks Coordinator for Annual General Meeting on 16th November 2022.

The Winter Walks Programme is complete, and we have a full six-month programme in place from November 2022 through to April 2023. Many thanks to those members who gave me walks as the club couldn't function without you.

Walk Leaders are the life blood to this club. We have lost many due to unforeseen circumstances. Comparing the last six months from the summer programme to the new winter programme I have lost 8 walk leaders which comes to 18 walks and have gained 3 returning walk leaders that have come back from personal time out due to various reasons, which gave me 5 walks. I have had no new walk leaders come forward. This has been happening steadily over the past few years. The remaining walk leaders have gone over and above to provide a full walking programme.

As we need new walk leaders, we will be organizing a walk-leaders course in the Spring. Leading walks is not a complicated affair, and we are here to assist new walk leaders.

This winter, as a trial, we are starting **Sunday walks at 10am**. This is so that walks end that bit earlier that allowing the drive home to be in daylight hours.

Nicky Ward
Walks Co-ordinator



SOUTH DEVON RAMBLERS

Report of Social Committee for Annual General Meeting on

Wednesday 16th November 2022

We cautiously opened up the social calendar last year by going ahead with the pre-planned Christmas lunch at Dainton Golf Club in December 2021, however, being mindful of Covid safety, numbers were restricted to forty. Apologies to those guests who would have liked to have come. Everyone enjoyed a very nice 3-course meal in the orangery; and a big thank-you goes out to VR for taking charge of the tricky organisation and to JM for producing the flyers and providing the place cards which have become our standard trademark!

The fish and chip supper at Rockfish Restaurant, Brixham in February was a huge success and we could have easily doubled the numbers wanting to attend. Thanks go out to Missin' Tackle who added a nautical flourish to the evening with their sea shanty set. Definitely an event which is on the back-burner for repeating in the future.

Unfortunately, the Ceilidh arranged for May was cancelled due to insufficient tickets being sold to cover costs.

In the summer we provided cakes, biscuits and savouries to support a member who led a pleasant bring-and-share picnic walk at Widecombe.

The SDR 40th Anniversary Celebration lunch in July was a memorable occasion and thanks are due to the committee for supporting the Chairman in organising and setting the format for this event.

A canoeing expedition through the Dartington Estate in July saw some of our more intrepid adventurers enjoying this splendid event organised at short notice by VR. There were no mishaps and the canoeists reported sightings of herons and kingfishers en-route.

Fifteen members enjoyed a visit to the Ultimate Plymouth Gin Experience in October organised by VR. The gin-tasting went down very well as did the excellent lunch in the Brasserie.

There are various events in the planning stage for 2023, and as usual we hope to provide social activities which will be attractive, and ultimately well supported by SDR members.