

# SevernSide Ramblers

## February, March, April & May 2018



### From the Chair

**Welcome to the first newsletter of 2018.**

Last year we had a very successful programme of walks. Thanks to all our Walks Leaders especially the new leaders. We are looking forward to another year of walking and there are some wonderful walks on the programme with a variety to suit most tastes. February sees the start of our Friday Ambles, many thanks to Jean Aellen and her team of Walk Leaders. We had a very successful Christmas meal at Failand Inn attended by xx members. 38 Members enjoyed a weekend break in the Brecons back in October although the weather was not in our favour. Arrangements are in hand for a weekend break in Simonsbath in April. We had an enjoyable coach trip to the Mumbles back in July and we are looking at options for another day out during July/August. Our AGM was held in November and thank you to all who attended. The Committee members are listed below.

Ken Mill - **Chairman**

#### **Severnside Committee**

Following on from our AGM held on 19 Nov 17 the committee members are:

<b>Chairman:</b>	Ken Mill	0117 931 5108
<b>Secretary:</b>	Chris Gaymer	0117 951 3319
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Peter Randall	0786 0167899
<b>Web Editor:</b>	Ken Mill	0117 931 5108
<b>Walks Programme:</b>	Peter Spring	0117 931 2185
<b>Social Secretary:</b>	Gill King	01454 601180
<b>Publicity:</b>	Andy Pearson	01454 416321
<b>General Committee Members:</b>		
	Gloria Drury	0791 4303469
	Jean Williams	0117 976 1445
	Michael Doherty	0117 979 8477
	Helen Windsor	0781 5463259

#### **Ramblers Walk Leaders Information**

We now have copies of the updated Walk Leaders Checklist.

We also have copies of the In-case of Emergency Cards. Please get in touch with Chris Gaymer for copies.

#### **Exmoor Weekend**

6th - 9th April 2018. A 3 night stay at The Simonsbath House Hotel on Exmoor. Dinner, bed and breakfast at £77.00 per night per person sharing a twin/double room. A £10.00 single supplement per night for single room occupancy. 2 nights are an alternative option. A packed lunch is available at £5.50 per day. Please add a £1.00 admin fee.

Details of walks at a later stage.

Cheques payable to Severnside RA Social Fund to Gill King, 29 Redwick Road, Pilning, Bristol. BS35 4PN.

#### **Avon Area Ramblers AGM Saturday 3 February 2018**

The AGM will be hosted by Severnside Ramblers at the Patchway Community Centre. The programme will be

10:00 - 12:00 - optional four-mile walk

12.30 - 13.30 - informal buffet lunch

13.30 - 14.00 - formal AGM proceedings

Guest Speaker - Peter Carr Ramblers Trustee

#### **Shorter Walks**

We would like to be able to offer a shorter walk on a Saturday or Sunday as an alternative to the usual longer walks. Ideally the distance should be around 5 - 7 miles. This would be an opportunity to offer more local walks. Please consider volunteering to lead a shorter walk. For more information contact Ken Mill (ken.mill57@talktalk.net) or Peter Spring (peterspring1@hotmail.com).

**Help us save money - sign up for electronic mailing. You can still pick up a yellow paper copy of the programme on any walk. Details on [www.severnside-ramblers.org.uk](http://www.severnside-ramblers.org.uk)**

# Walks and Social Events Programme

See back page for grading of walk definitions

## Notes:

Please ensure you are **well equipped with suitable footwear and waterproof clothing**: contact the leader well before the walk if you have any doubts. We assume that walkers are aware the countryside can be muddy after rain so we do not put this on the programme. You should assume there is no pub or café stop if none is mentioned, so **please bring food and drink**, but **never** consume these on pub or café premises. **All walkers should carry their own first aid kit** and this is especially important for leaders.

All walk leaders must be **members and over the age of 18**. Leaders are required to carry with them **a copy of the Accident Form** (obtainable from the Severnside website or contact the Secretary) and **a mobile phone** for emergencies.

No leader can be responsible for **anyone who proceeds ahead** without directions. Registered assistance dogs are welcome, but other dog owners should confirm with the walk leader whether it is appropriate to bring them - the decision is entirely at the discretion of the leader and will be based on their observations of terrain and farm livestock during pre walks - if permitted, dogs should be kept on leads at all times.

Some members like to take photographs on the walks. These often appear on our website. Please advise the leader should you not wish to appear in a photograph.

Non-members are welcome **but after three walks** will be expected to join the Ramblers.

Date / Walk Grade	Venue	Depart time / place	Walk Length /Time	Map	Distance / Suggested Donation	Leader or Contact
Fri 2 Feb L	<b>Winterbourne Down.</b> Taking in part of the Frome Valley walkway, a hill fort and historic Moorend. This probably muddy but local walk has a few stiles and a few short ascents and descents.	09.30 Aldi	2 hrs	E155	10 miles £1.00	Jenny 01454 777963
Sat 3 Feb L	<b>Avon Area AGM Walk.</b> A pre-meeting walk taking in Cattybrook brick works, Lower Almondsbury and back to venue - Starting and finishing at Patchway Community Centre	10.00 From venue	4-5 miles	E167	n/a	Andy P. 01454 416321
Sun 4 Feb M	<b>North Somerset Coast path.</b> A winters day stroll along the Mariners path, before a steep climb (via many steps) up and over Portishead Down, returning through a quiet part of the town, contrasting with the newly developed dock Marina. Coast path, field and pavement walking.	09.30 AW	5.25 miles	E154	24 miles £2.40	Chris B. 01594 845423
Sun 11 Feb M	<b>Rodborough.</b> A pleasant walk across Rodborough Common, over a canal, through woods and fields and over the River Frome.	08.30 AW	10 miles	E179 E168	20 miles £2.00	Brian 07547 325438
Fri 16 Feb L	<b>Saltford and Kelston.</b> Mainly flat, using fields and tracks. Some stiles and gates.	09.30 Aldi	2 hrs	E155	32 miles £3.20	Jean W. 01179 761445
Sun 18 Feb L	<b>Clifton and Abbot's Pool.</b> Varied walk from the Suspension Bridge, down to Avon Gorge and up Nightingale Valley to Abbot's Leigh.	09.00 AW	9 miles	E155	18 miles £1.80	Ken 01179 315108
Sun 25 Feb M	<b>Haresfield Beacon.</b> A circular walk from the National Trust car park at Shortwood. Parking free to N.T. members.	09.00 AW	10 miles	E179	47 miles £4.70	Sue L. 07808 116725
Fri 2 Mar L	<b>Clifton Down.</b> From Clifton Down through Clifton, down to the River Avon and back up to Clifton Down. Be prepared for a steep ascent and descent.	09.30 Aldi	2 hrs	E155	15 miles £1.50	Michael 01179 798477 07419 350050
Sun 4 Mar M	<b>Chew Magna &amp; Stanton Drew.</b> Including the Stone Circle and Chew Valley Lake.	10.00 AW	9-10 miles	E141/E154	40 miles £4.00	Joy 01179 334998
Sun 11 Mar L	<b>14 Locks - Newport.</b> Industrial heritage (canals and locks), fields, a church with a secret (don't get too excited!), optional climb to a grand view. Start/end at visitor centre with café.	08.30 AW	9 miles	E152	55 miles £5.50 + Toll	Andy & Chris 01454 416321
Fri 16 Mar L	<b>Littleton-on-Severn.</b> Varied Severnvalle landscape, with a coffee stop on Cowhill - grand views. Then some Severn Way on the return leg. Could be muddy in places.	09.30 Aldi	2 hrs	E167	18 miles £1.80	Andy & Chris 01454 416321
Sun 18 Mar M	<b>Priddy and Ebbor Gorge.</b> Circular routs taking in Priddy, Wookey Hole and Ebbor Gorge. Some steep climbs.	08.30 AW	12 miles	E141	60 miles £6.00	Ken 01179 315108
Sun 25 Mar M	<b>Winchcombe, Greet, Toddington, Didbrook and Hailes.</b> Fairly level walk with minor rises and falls. A few kissing gates and stiles. Toilets 20p.	08.30 AW	10 miles	OL45	90 miles £9.00 + £1 CP	Ann L. 01179 798628
Fri 30 Mar	<b>Good Friday.</b> No Friday amble offered.					

# Walks and Social Events Programme

See back page for grading of walk definitions

Sun 1 Apr L	<b>Mathern.</b> A connection with Arthurian legend in a moderate walk over pleasant countryside overlooked by walkers heading to the Wye Valley.	09.00 AW	7.5 miles	OL14	30 miles £3.00 + Toll	Chris B. 01594 845423
Fri 6 Apr - Mon 9 Apr	<b>Simonsbath Weekend.</b> Pre-booking required.	Please contact Gill for more information				Gill 01454 601180
Sun 8 Apr M	<b>Train based walk. Bruton.</b> A walk taking in Lamyatt, Wyke Champflower and Bruton Dovecote. 2 small climbs. Possible drink stop at end. <b>This is NOT a car sharing walk. Meet on the platform NOT in the car park.</b>	FAW dep 9am or BTM dep 9.25am	9-10 miles	E142	n/a	Ann L. 01179 798628
Fri 13 Apr L	<b>Rudgeway.</b> A picturesque walk with views east and west, one short steep descent and a donkey sanctuary!	09.30 Aldi	2hrs	E167	6 miles 60p	Andy & Chris 01454 416321
Sun 15 Apr M	<b>Wye Valley.</b> Starting from Brockweir, along field and woodland paths taking in Hewelsfield and St. Briavels, returning along the River Wye. Fine views and historic interest.	09.00 AW	8-9 miles	OL14	32 miles £3.20	Peter S. 07963 164511
Sun 22 Apr L	<b>Pensford.</b> A 6 mile walk visiting Publow, Woolard, Hunstrete and Chelwood.	10.00 AW	6 miles	E155	34 miles £3.40	Joy 01179 334998
Fri 27 Apr L	<b>Wick/Doynton.</b> Footpaths, lanes, the edge of a golf course and part of Golden Valley Nature Reserve. Several stiles and ups and downs. Optional pub at end. <b>Anyone needing additional info on this walk, please contact Jean before 4pm the day before the walk</b>	09.30 Aldi	2.5hrs	E155	24 miles £2.40	Jean A. 01454 419274
Sun 29 Apr M	<b>Tidenham Chase.</b> Views of Wye and Severn. Hilly walk across fields and along woodland paths and lanes.	08.30 AW	12 miles	OL14	24 miles £2.40 + Toll	Ken 01179 315108
Sun 6 May M	<b>Two Welsh Castles.</b> Castles Coch and Caerphilly. Tracks, paths and lanes. Woodland and ridgeway with some steep sections. Panoramic views.	08.30 AW	12 miles	E151	80 miles £8.00 + Toll	Kathy 07890 113179
Fri 11 May L	<b>Portbury.</b> Woods, parkland, open fields and one steep incline. Some stiles.	09.30 Aldi	2-2.5 hrs	E154	20 miles £2.00	Helen 07815 463259
Sun 13 May M	<b>Sugar Loaf.</b> A steady (upper end of moderate) climb over open hillside, via lane, wood and track. A deliberate shorter walk, offering if you've never walked in the Brecon Beacons National Park before, superb scenery!	09.00 AW	7-8 miles	OL13	90 miles £9.00 + Toll	Chris B. 01594 845423
Wed 16 May M	<b>WWW Railway Walk.</b> BTM to Bath Spa. Parks and gardens of Bath in spring. Meet leader outside station. Rtn. Train to BTM frequent service.	10.49 BTM	5-6 miles	E155	N/A	Sylvia 01179 793828
Thur 17 May L	<b>Evening walk - Priors Wood.</b> A varied landscape of fields and woods, ending with great views across the Severn and (maybe) a sunset. Optional pub after.	18.30 AW	4 miles	E154	20 miles £2.00	Andy & Chris 01454 416321
Sat 19 May M	<b>WWW Railway Walk.</b> BTM to Maiden Newton. Kingscombe Centre to explore beautiful Kingscombe House Meadows (with optional extra walking). Café 64 is open in High Street for early arrivals. Rtn. Train to BTM 17.55.	08.39 BTM	7-8 miles	E117	N/A	Sylvia 01179 793828
Sun 20 May M	<b>Marlborough Downs.</b> Route taking in Fyfield Down Nature Reserve and part of Marlborough Downs. Some steep climbs. Parking free to N.T. and E.H. members. Car Park at Avebury costs £7 all day.	08.30 AW	15 miles	E157	90 miles £9.00	Ken 01179 315108
Fri 25 May L	<b>Castle Combe/Ford.</b> Fields, country lanes, woodland and a beautiful Cotswold village. Parking tba. Optional drink at end. <b>Anyone needing additional info on this walk, please contact Jean before 4pm the day before the walk</b>	09.30 Aldi	2/2.5 hrs	E156	40 miles £4.00	Jean A. 01454 419274
Sun 27 May L	<b>Faukland and Wellow.</b> Countryside and following river to Wellow with ford and café.	10.00 AW	9-10 miles	E142	64 miles £6.40	Joy 01179 334998

**Key:** AW - Aztec West Blue Zone, Aldi - Aldi car park, WWW - Wessex Wanderers Railway Walks, BTM - Bristol Temple Meads, BPW - Bristol Parkway, FAW - Filton Abbey Wood station

# Walks and Social Events Programme

BEFORE COMING ON A WALK PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTES ON PAGE 2

**Meeting points:** Weekend and evening walks meet at the Blue Zone, Aztec West, BS32 4TD. Friday Ambles continue to meet at the Aldi car park, Brook Way Bradley Stoke, BS32 9DA. Both are served by First Bus service 73 (please check times). We operate a car-share policy: drivers appreciate a voluntary donation towards petrol costs - suggested amount for this programme is 10p per miles plus a share of any toll or parking charges. A suggested donation for each walk is given in the programme.

**Times given are departure times from meeting point.**

**Friday Ambles:** A morning sociable stroll for about 2 hours, within easy driving distance. Lifts available from Aldi meeting point. Usually optional pub or café stop at end of walk.

## Grading of Walks - Definitions

**Easy (E):** Walks for anyone who does not have a mobility difficulty or a specific health problem or is seriously unfit. Maybe suitable for pushchairs if they can be lifted over occasional obstructions. Comfortable shoes or trainers can be worn.

**Leisurely (L):** Walks for reasonably fit people with at least a little country walking experience. May include un-surfaced rural paths. Walking boots and warm, waterproof clothing are recommended.

**Moderate (M):** Walks for people with country walking experience and a good level of fitness. May include some climbs on steep paths, open hillsides or moorland and maybe at a brisk pace. Walking boots and warm, waterproof clothing are essential.

**Strenuous (S):** Walks for experienced country walkers with above average fitness levels. May include hills, rough countryside and at a brisk pace. Walking boots and warm, waterproof clothing are essential.

**If in doubt about your fitness please contact the Walk Leader in advance.**

## Walk Leaders

**Please submit walks for June, July, August and September by 1 May 2018.**

Either via our website at [www.severnside-ramblers.org.uk](http://www.severnside-ramblers.org.uk) or phone Peter on 0117 931 2185

To submit a Friday Amble please contact Jean on 01454 419274 or [jeanaellen@talktalk.net](mailto:jeanaellen@talktalk.net)



Ramblers Charity England & Wales No 1093577 Scotland No SC039799

A moment to pause. Breathing in clear air. Sharing interests and conversations as you ponder the hills ahead. We have your passion for exploring worldwide and in the UK.

Choose any of our holidays and we'll contribute funds through **The Walking Partnership** to your group. Just tell us their name when you book.

Book a great value holiday: [ramblersholidays.co.uk](http://ramblersholidays.co.uk) or call 01707 386804  

Walking holiday partner



If you book a holiday through "Ramblers Walking Holidays" please let them know that you are a member of Severnside as both the group and you will receive benefits. They may not ask! For more information see their website at:

[www.thewalkingpartnership.org.uk](http://www.thewalkingpartnership.org.uk)

**Do Ramblers have your up-to-date contact details? If not, update them at [membership@ramblers.org.uk](mailto:membership@ramblers.org.uk) or ring 020 7339 8595**

The Ramblers Association is a registered charity (England & Wales no 1093577, Scotland no SC039799) and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales (no 4458492).

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