

Ramblers Trafford AGM 2024
Membership Secretary's Report

The total number of members in the group has increased slightly: on 23rd October 2024 there were 298, compared to 285 on 1st November last year. During this time 61 new members have joined or re-joined, and 48 have resigned or moved group. Included in the total are three affiliate members: their main membership is in another group, but they have identified Trafford as a second group they wish to keep contact with. We also have several members of other local Ramblers groups who regularly join us for our Thursday walks or Saturday strolls.

The group has continued with email communication only during the year, as agreed early last year. There are currently 255 membership contacts on the RTG membership account. Two members have a shared email address with their partner. We have 40 members who have not provided us with an email address. Of these:

- 23 members have joint membership with a partner who has provided an email address, so presumably they do receive information.
- 17 members are not receiving emails directly or indirectly. All of these were in the cohort that was written to in February last year advising them that the group was moving to email communication only.

Additionally, we currently have three members whose email addresses do not appear to be functioning, and from which we receive “undeliverable” emails. These members have been contacted regarding this.

Another review was undertaken on the RTG membership account against the Ramblers database, on 23rd October. This is much more aligned than previously, though there were still a few discrepancies - e.g. where a member has directly advised us of their email address (or change) but not updated their records with Ramblers. This means that it has to be amended manually each time the contact list is updated, and also that they won't be receiving communications from Ramblers Head Office.

To further improve communications within the group, an email was sent out to all members in September inviting them to join the “Walks Information” WhatsApp group if they wished to. As a result, an additional 26 RTG members have been added to this group: although the information posted is also on our website, the WhatsApp platform is a more immediate method of communication. All new members to RTG are invited, in the welcome email they receive, to join this group if they wish.

Katharine Thorley

27 Oct 2024

From info on the Ramblers database and membership email account as at 23.10.23