

Trafford Ramblers Group

Annual Report for year ending September 2022

Our group has continued to thrive with a gradually increasing membership and a continued active walks programme. Our Thursday walks are normally within an hours drive of Trafford reaching the outskirts of Greater Manchester, the surrounding counties and occasionally North Wales. Several additional walks have been organised on other days of the week as well as more challenging alternative walks on Thursdays. They are well supported and varied. Thanks to our walk leaders in encouraging and supporting members to lead walks we continue to maintain a wide variety in our programme. We are now actively exploring options in order to offer overnight and/or weekend stays to enable walks in locations such as the Lake District and mid-Wales.

Earlier this year we transferred our website to a Ramblers supported website which has technical support from volunteers at the Ramblers. This was smooth and has proved welcome due to the additional facilities that this has provided. In particular, the ease of posting the walks programme and altering it on rare occasions due to unexpected cancellation. Members have welcomed the ease with which walks details are readily available.

The Saturday Strollers walks of 4-5 miles which are closer to Trafford continue to be very popular, and are down to the enthusiasm of the two main leaders, Sheila and Lesley, who have been leading this for over ten years now. More recently they have added slightly longer walk options.

Since the restrictions of the pandemic and the need for walks booking, leaders have found this useful and we now request that people book onto walks.

Our Facebook page continues to be popular with many “likes” and the two WhatsApp groups, for social comments and pictures, and walks information, are well used.

I would like to thank the members of our Trafford committee for all their hard work over the last year and the enthusiasm with which they approach their tasks.

Richard Longbottom

Chair of Trafford Ramblers