

Area delegates report to West London group AGM 2023

1. Des Garrahan, the current chair, has said he is standing down at the next AGM. The area is still looking for a new secretary. Each London Group needs to contact Area Chair if there are changes to Officers in their Group.

2. The treasurer reported that the Q3 monies had been received and distributed OK. It was noted that all groups finances were within budget and robust. We finished the year with more money than was expected due to low expenditure. Quite a lot is being saved from not printing programmes.

3. The membership secretary reported that there had been not much change to March 2023 in membership. Also there were a few members who were not being served by groups because they were on the area list. The membership secretary is to write to them.

4. General council.

- urban walking motion was approved.
- for walks leaders it is being proposed that Risk Assessments will not be compulsory but online training will be! This could be a problem with leaders who are not online.
- attendance at GC was discussed with a view to encouraging people to volunteer to attend and produce a more diverse attendance. At present visitors are not allowed so members cannot attend to see what it is like. Talking to members during the year will be needed to encourage them. The Area walk in June to which all Groups committee members had been invited, was a suitable occasion to discuss the GC attendees for Inner London, but unfortunately very few members attended, partly due to some people not contacted. The aim is to have a balance between experienced and newer members to Ramblers for attending GC.

5. London wide issues.

- the Green chain has been added to the list of trails alongside the loop and ring.
- TFL now have a leisure walking plan.
- RA will not push for definitive maps to be made compulsory for ILEA boroughs because this is likely to be resisted by the boroughs on grounds of cost.

6. Inner London Area AGM.

To be held on Saturday 3rd February 2024 from 2pm – 4pm at The AHOY Centre, Borthwick Street, Deptford. SE8 3JY. Des Garrahan has not invited a speaker for this meeting.

7. Central Office

It was felt by many that Central Office were not listening to our needs and taking action when officers were reporting issues that needed rectifying.

8. Walks Manager – Feedback from Groups

Some groups were only using one person to upload walks on the new system and some of these groups didn't have all their walk leaders contacts on Assemble. West London were able to report that the majority of our walk leaders were now entering and uploading their own walks on the Walks Manager.