

West London Ramblers Group – Chair's Report 2024

It's been another good year. We managed to offer a full walking programme. We ran a successful training session for new leaders at the beginning of the year and have welcomed a number of new leaders. The WhatsApp group for recce partners works well. Once again, we supported the London Blind Walkers with a couple of walks.

The highpoints of the year were the holidays. There were long weekends in May to Woodbridge in Suffolk and to Great Malvern in July. By providing our own walk leaders we managed to keep the cost down. In September we had a walking holiday in the Elan Valley in Wales which was based in a lodge with its own guide.

Membership in early October was 566 which is 50 more than in previous years. This includes 43 affiliates and the number of those not providing an email address has slowly gone down to 70 (80). As before we did send an invitation to the AGM to those by post and there are now 4 (9) who receive the programme by post.

The committee held regular meetings, some in person, but most via zoom. Vino shadowed Carolyn as Programme Coordinator for most of the year and has now taken over producing the by monthly programme.

Looking forward we are planning more walking holidays in 2025. We have taken bookings for an HF holiday in Selworthy (Exmoor) in June, Aberystwyth in August and the Forest of Dean in September. There is more to come, at least Hastings and Cambridge are in the pipeline, but with demand high, there might be room for more.

My thanks go to all the committee members for their continued work over the year and to Chris Parnell for sending out the emails to members for the last 4 years. He has now decided to call it a day and a group of us have taken on this task.

Monika