

Scarborough Ramblers
Secretary's Report

1. Membership at 1/10/20 was 91 and at 30/9/21 was 112 members, a net gain of 21 with a further three joining since 1/10/21. This is an encouraging increase in our membership and may be due to the increased interest in walking due to the pandemic.

As per my report last year, please check with head office whether you have given authorisation to be contacted by email or post or telephone or a combination of all 3 methods . The default position is 'no contact' so if you have not given authorisation we cannot contact you due to data protection law. In Scarborough group, some 39 members have not given authorisation to be contacted by email, so we can only contact you once per year re the agm.....if you wish to be kept up to date with newsletters and other notices (such as walk cancellations due to bad weather), you will need to get in touch with head office to change your authorisations (we can tell you the state of your present authorisations)

2. We have been assisting the National Park in their biennial surveys of rights of way and we have had 7 teams of two (all Scarborough except for one team from Ryedale group) carrying out surveys during October and November . Rights of way are selected for survey by a random process and each path is deemed either to be a pass or fail according to certain criteria. Early indications are that the paths are in not such a good state as in previous years.

3. The area camp cancelled from 2020 duly took place in Northumberland in June 2021 , organised by our own members Wayne and Donna Dosdale. The number attending was somewhat lower than in previous years at 17, however, the camp seems to have been enjoyed by those who attended with some good walks in fine walking country and we extend our thanks to Wayne and Donna for their hard work in organising the camp.

4. The area AGM will take place on Saturday 22nd January. This is hoped to be a live meeting in York (venue to be decided), however a decision will be made on this at the next area meeting on 30th November.

5. We say goodbye this year to our treasurer Dave Grimwood who is stepping down from the committee after many years of keeping our finances in order, also to his other half Pam who was my predecessor as secretary and then a committee member ...we sincerely thank them for their contribution. Without people like Dave and Pam there would be no committee and no Scarborough Ramblers group. We also thank Cathryn who is stepping down from the committee.

6. Area have been grappling with the issue of whether to retain the 6 monthly walks booklet given out to every member in the area. Due to the pandemic, many groups (such as our own) are still unable to come up with a programme for even a few months ahead, let alone 6 months . In addition, it has been found that simply advertising walks on the area and group websites has worked quite well . Each group in our area was asked to come to a decision as to whether it supported or not the retention of the booklet and by a majority decision, the committee of Scarborough decided it was in favour of scrapping the booklet. The final decision will be made by area council.

7. Walk registers and risk assessments for each and every walk are still necessary according to Ramblers head office ,though this policy is not without its critics.....

Gary Malcolm Secretary 22nd November 2021