
Tameside Ramblers - September 2021



Welcome back

In the last Newsletter (April 2021) we were delighted to tell you that our group walks had resumed but with a limit of 12 people per walk. The walks were advertised just one week or so in advance to enable booking onto them. Now, the walks are published a month at a time, we have no upper limit on the walks (with the exception of the Wednesday pub walks which have a limit of 18) although we do ask people to book onto the walks for Test and Trace purposes.

The numbers attending the walks are generally not as high as they were pre-Covid, which is probably a reflection of people still being cautious, although the evening walks have been a resounding success and the first pub walk was fully booked!

Chris and Lynda are busy compiling the walks programmes two months at a time, rather than the four months that we used to do, but we are experiencing a few gaps; so, if you would like to have a go at leading a walk you would be most welcome.

The summer is almost over, and autumn is approaching and with it there are plans for some long-awaited social events – see later in this newsletter for more information.

In the meantime.....

Happy walking and keep safe

Stewart Ramsden
Chairman

Thursday Evening Walks



An outstanding recent success were the summer evening walks on a Thursday designed & led by Eddie Clift.

Regrettably as the nights have drawn in, we don't have enough day light hours for these to continue.

The features of the walk were;

- Starting at 6:30 pm
- A local start
- Grade D
- Finishing in day light
- An optional beer at the end

However, we are planning a “Walk & meal” type walk once a month. See Pages 6 & 7.

More details to follow.

The most recent walks were around;

1. Hobson Moor
2. Broadbottom
3. Dane Bank



Group shot at the Trig point on Hobson Moor

Jo Manning : **Club Treasurer**



By day Jo works for the NHS as a Senior Vascular Technician in the Department of Rheumatology at Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust.

Her clinical research consists of co-authoring 72 peer reviewed articles in the past 15 years.

In part of her spare time she kindly also volunteers as the Treasurer for Tameside Ramblers.

When asked around her Treasurer role;

As Ramblers activities have increased, so have the treasurer's activity. Area Ramblers allocate funds for core business such as recce expenses for walk leaders and admin such as printing and postage for members who opt out of email communication.

Walk leaders should not be out of pocket when preparing a walk. Ramblers pay 20p per mile from home to the start of the walk for up to two recces. I am more than happy to assist Leaders complete the claims forms if requested.

We also receive funds from Ramblers Walking Holidays Partnership. If you are fortunate enough to book a holiday, you can nominate your Ramblers group.

Please select Tameside Ramblers when booking and we will receive £10 per person for UK holidays and £20 for overseas trips.

We thank Jo for her hard work “behind the scenes” in her role with us.

PS : A thank you from Jo to those ramblers who have helped with her research projects.

Tameside Ramblers AGM 2021

The ninth AGM of Tameside Ramblers

Is to be held at 1.30pm on Saturday 20th November 2021

In the Upper Hall at the Fairfield Moravian Settlement,

Fairfield Square, Droylsden.

Parking will be available at Fairfield High School, M43 6ED,

accessed via Fairfield Avenue, off A635 Ashton Old Road

Please do not drive into, or park within, the settlement.

Programme

10.30am. Optional 3-mile walk from Portland Basin to the Settlement. To book, contact Pete Summers 07510 515502

12.15pm. Optional short guided tour of the Settlement. Meet outside the Church door.

1.00pm. Tea and biscuits in the Upper Hall (bring

your own sandwiches).

The meeting will commence at 1.30pm and will end no later than 3.30pm

The main agenda items will be:

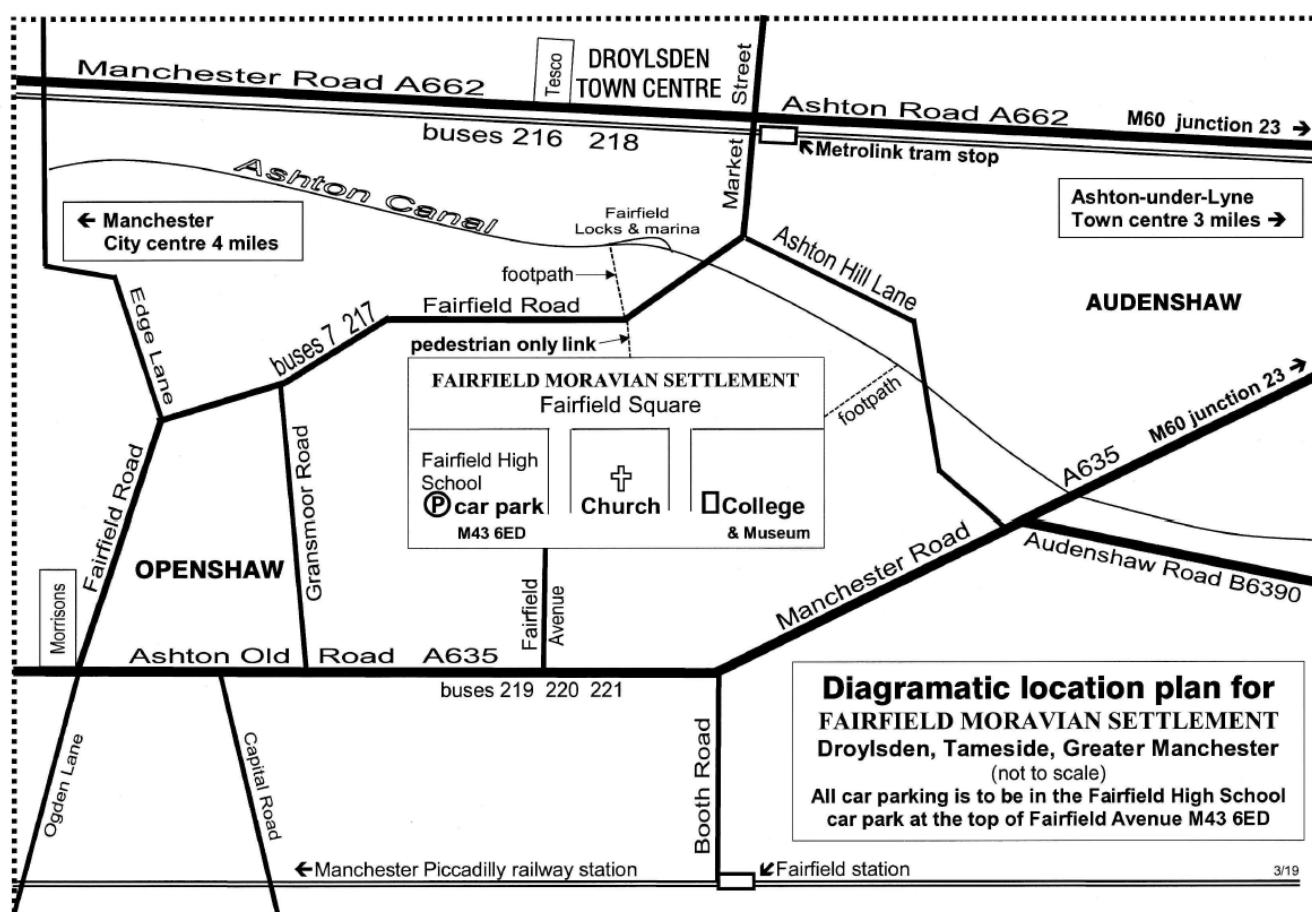
Delivery of Annual Report; Election of Committee; Opportunity for questions.

All committee positions are up for election.

Anyone wishing to stand for a particular position on the committee should inform Prue Ramsden,

Group Secretary, in writing by post or email by NO LATER THAN MONDAY 30th OCTOBER 2021

See the committee members' panel in this newsletter for contact details.



Membership Update

In The Beginning - - -

- - - until 2013 when people in Tameside wanted to join Ramblers, they were assigned to either the Stockport, Manchester or Oldham groups because there was no Ramblers group in Tameside.

When the Tameside group was initiated the existing members, whose addresses were in Tameside, were given a choice by Central Office of staying in their original group or being transferred to Tameside.

Our first gathering was in January 2013 and our first committee meeting took place on 10th July in the same year; we had 162 members.

By September we had lost a few original members but gained one or two more, we had 171 by this time and the number of people joining us remained slow, the following September we had 179.

We may not have had a fast-growing membership but what we did have was enthusiasm, a good social network, high visibility in our hi-vis jackets as we cleared local footpaths, distributed leaflets to libraries, Dr's surgeries, etc. and eventually it paid off as two years after we began we had 201 members.

Our numbers increased steadily until Covid hit us, then, in common with other groups, our numbers declined as some let their membership lapse, however, as people discovered the joys of walking during lockdown many of them wanted to continue and saw Ramblers as a good way of doing it.

With Ramblers they have the security of being in a group with an experienced walk leader, have the opportunity to explore new areas, try a good variety of walks, make new friends and enjoy the social aspect too.

Our membership is now up to 227 people, which is a growth rate of 38.8% since we began. Not bad at all!

Happily, our numbers continue to increase and with the friendliness and enthusiasm I mentioned at the beginning, this comes as no surprise.

Prue Ramsden

Group and Membership Secretary



Wednesday Walk & Lunch



Another recent innovation was a 4 mile walk followed by us all going for a meal (25th August).

The concept & organisation was again by Eddie to who we owe a great thanks.

We started off in the car park at the pub and ended back there 2 hours later—all ready for a drink and food.

The food was pre-ordered and we had table service for drinks etc. Alan kindly arranged a 20% off for the food and drinks saving the group over £60 !

It was great to see Margaret, Donal & Graham out again after recent illnesses. We wish them a continued healthy recovery.

Post meal note :

Unfortunately one member later tested positive for CV-19 and we wished them a speedy recovery. Other members took a test and all tested negative.

Further “Meal & walks” will be planned on the last Wednesday of the month. 18 max, book on with the walk leader when put out on a first come basis. Eddie to lead the next walk... almost certain to be Dane Bank and eating there. Then Pete and Ruth are leading the Oct walk, alternating after that with Eddie.



Donal, Susan & Eddie



Graham, Pam & Peter



Eddie, Geoff, Valerie & Dennis



Alex, Sue, Pete & Alan



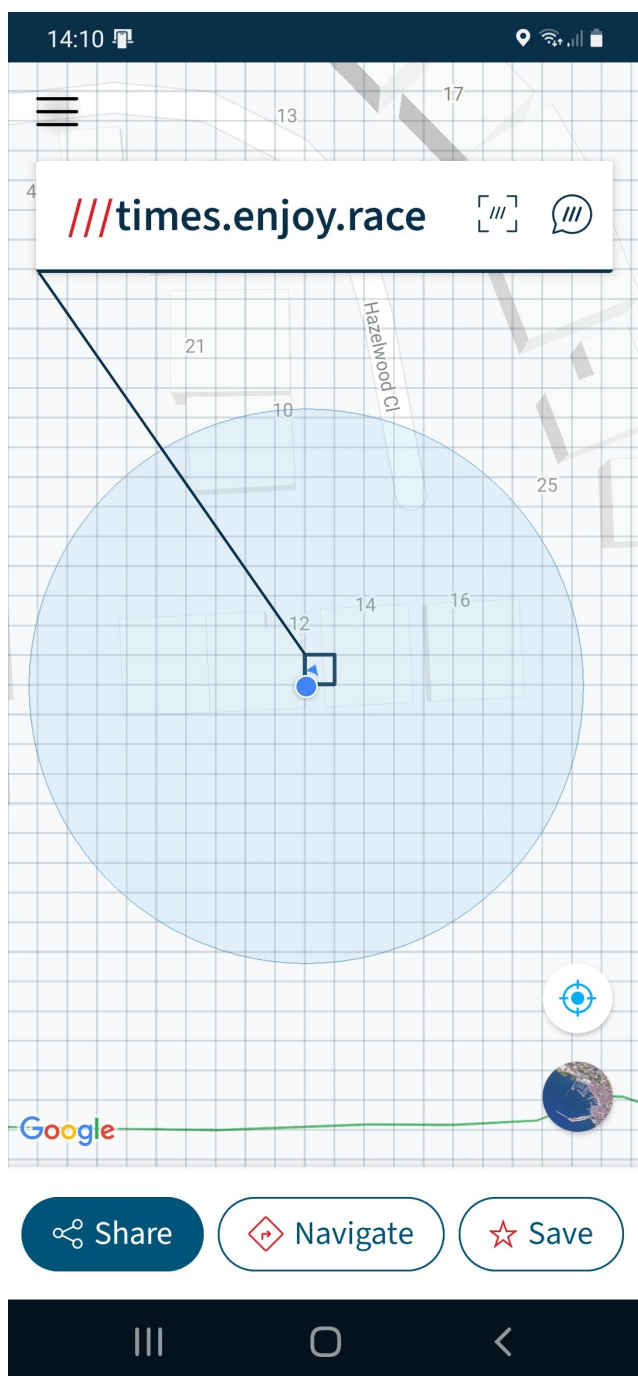
Carol, Prue, Stewart, Ken (taking the photo !) and Margaret

What 3 Words Update

We have featured this a number of times before, and it continues to gain momentum and use by the emergency services.

What3words addresses are accepted by over 80% of UK emergency services as well as the AA.

What3words is a system that have divided the world into 3m squares and given each square a unique combination of three words.



What3words addresses are easy to say and share, and as accurate as GPS coordinates.

True extract from a local ramblers group

“Yesterday one of the walkers in our Tuesday afternoon Walking Group unfortunately slipped on a dusty track on a fairly steep hill and sadly broke her leg.

When we phoned 999 the call handler, when they were asking precisely where we were (on a steep hillside track above the A62 not far up from Delph crossroads going east towards Marsden) asked if we had the What3words app.

One of the walkers had the app but wasn't familiar with how to use it so the 999 call handler talked her through how to do this.

When she tapped the map on the app it came up with, as the name suggests, 3 words and when we conveyed these 3 words to the emergency services that, apparently, gave them the GPS location of exactly where we were.

Having seen how it helped both firstly the Oldham Mountain Rescue - who said it was the first time in their history that they had had a call out to a Walking Group & how useful the What3words use had been - and then the Ambulance service to quickly find us I thought you might also find this information and the following useful - that is if you're not already aware of it.”

Memorable Moments !



Bare face cheek of it !



Tameside ramblers always keen to make new friends



No comment !



Nap time for Carl ?

Social Side

Given the ever changing situation around CV-19 it is difficult plan group meetings, but when its appropriate we do have plans.

December:

Tapas night at the Sportsman in Hyde . The numbers will be limited and there'll be more details given in the December walks' programme.

January:

Social night, probably at the Sheldon Arms in Ashton. The numbers again may be limited, although this depends on how the pub can accommodate us. This is likely to be on a Thursday evening (probably the 13th). Again, more details will be given in the January walks' programme.

April 2022:

On 9th April 2022, we are having a weekend away at Haworth with 2 walks arranged on the Saturday and Sunday (details nearer the time). We plan an overnight stay at either the Youth Hostel or a local hotel.

At the hostel, there are various rooms available, accommodating from 1 person to 8 people. Prices are about £25 to £30pp with breakfast an extra £6.75pp.

There are 5 hotels in Haworth—the Bronte, Leeming Wells, the Fleece, Old White Lion and Old Silent Inn. Prices range from £70 to £105 for doubles, including breakfast. There are also single rooms available.

Please let Pete or Ruth know if you want to partake on 07752 765039 or 0751 0512502.

Pete Summers

Social Secretary

The Ramblers App



With the Ramblers app which is exclusive for members, you'll be able to find the latest Ramblers group walks anywhere across Great Britain, explore 3,000 walking routes with friends and family and access exclusive member offers.

Features available in the app include:

- **3,000 walking routes** for members to explore with friends and family
- Great walking features including the latest gear reviews
- Access to your **latest member offers and news**
- Searchable library of **50,000 Ramblers group walks** across Great Britain.

New Mobile Apps

Outside Maps (Free)



Outside Maps lets you view and navigate a variety of different maps, including historic OS maps from 1880-1990 and 1921-1947.

Tap the menu to select your map , then tap the target button to locate yourself on it.

You can also get GPS data on your location, set way points on a route and more.

<https://www.outsidemaps.com/>

Thank you to Computeractive for their kind permission to reproduce this article.

Freeze to membership fees



The Ramblers annual membership fee review takes place on 1 October each year.

The Ramblers board of trustees have decided to hold fees at 2019/20 rates for an additional year to the end of Sept 2022, to recognise the disruption to members caused by the pandemic, at a time when not all benefits could be accessed, especially our group walks.

They believe this is the right thing to do for our members, whose support and loyalty during the last year is hugely appreciated, and to help those members who may find themselves in financial difficulty.

Thank you again for your continued support. You are the driving force behind increasing access to green spaces and opening up more places to walk for everyone to enjoy.

Thank you.

Ramblers HQ

Future News Letters

Any thoughts or proposed contributions for the next news letter should be sent to Alan at ;

alan@c-i-t.co.uk

The Committee

Chairman : Stewart Ramsden

Email : chairman@tamesideramblers.org.uk

Group & Membership Secretary : Prue Ramsden

Email : secretary@tamesideramblers.org.uk

Treasurer : Jo Manning

Email : treasurer@tamesideramblers.org.uk

Walks Coordinator : Christine Harrison

Email : walks@tamesideramblers.org.uk

Walks Coordinator : Lynda Chandler

Email : walks@tamesideramblers.org.uk

Committee Member : John Harrison

Social Secretaries : Ruth & Pete Summers

Email : social@tamesideramblers.org.uk

Web Master & IT Support : Alan P James

Email : webmaster@tamesideramblers.org.uk

Foot Note : If you have received this News letter by Post and to comply with GDPR ;

You are receiving this communication because we believe that it would be of interest to you . If you'd rather not receive similar information in future, please let us know. You can email ramblers@ramblers.org.uk, change your preferences online at ramblers.org.uk/myaccount or call (0)20 3961 3300.