



## Ramblers Association Cambridge Group

Email: [info@cambridgeramblers.org.uk](mailto:info@cambridgeramblers.org.uk)

Hello Ramblers

### Newsletter No 1, Autumn 2024

Welcome to the first newsletter from the Cambridge Ramblers Group being circulated electronically. We are hoping to send out a local newsletter maybe once or twice a year. Electronic circulation reaches approx. 40% of our Cambridge Group membership, however members can opt in or out for receiving emails through selecting their communication preferences on the main Ramblers website.

### Walks

Details of the Cambridge Group's walks can be found here [Cambridge Group - Ramblers](#) There are walks every Saturday and two Mondays a month, typically starting at 10:00. If you haven't joined a walk in recent months please do come along and enjoy the countryside and the company.

The walks are throughout Cambridgeshire and neighbouring counties and can be accessed via public transport or lift sharing. Please contact the group via the email [info@cambridgeramblers.org.uk](mailto:info@cambridgeramblers.org.uk) or by using the contact details provided on the walk description on the website.

We are always looking for members who would be willing to become Walk Leaders. There is very good support for those willing to volunteer for this. The main Ramblers website has a lot of online training available that you can complete at your own convenience and locally an experienced Walk Leader can offer one to one coaching, mentoring and shared leading on your first walks. Our walks are generally between five and ten miles, at a leisurely or moderate pace.

When you are walking, either independently or with the Ramblers, if you find any access or safety problems on the footpaths please report them online at [Cambridgeshire County Council - ReportIt](#) This is the same place as reporting problems with roads as well as footpaths.



### Ramblers websites

There is some confusion over Ramblers websites. Essentially there are two websites: the local Cambridge Group one and the national one. The Cambridge Group can be found here <https://cambridgeramblers.org> There is a link from our local website to our walking programme. The

national website [The Ramblers: Britain's walking charity](#) shows walks from all over the country. As a member you can walk with any group at any time. From the national website you will need to filter the list of walks to ones near your location or by your group. Use the link at the start of the walks paragraph above to get directly to the Cambridge Group walks. If you have a smart phone it is useful to download the Ramblers app. This is the easiest to use to check details of the meeting point even when you are en route.

### **Date for your diary – our AGM**

Whether you are a regular walker or not we would like to invite you to the Annual General Meeting for the Cambridge Group that is being held on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2024** at 2.30 to 4.30pm at St James Church, Wulfstan Way, Cambridge CB1 8QJ. There will be a presentation by a speaker plus tea and cakes. There are some 15 parking spaces at the church and nearby street parking available. Please RSVP to the email at the top of this letter if you plan to attend. It is a good way to hear about the local issues with footpaths, access, changes and maintenance. We are also looking for members willing to join the committee, initially to help with any of the jobs that the committee needs to do rather than taking on a specific responsibility.

### **Local Greenways**

You are probably aware of the government support for promoting active travel. There is currently funding available for local greenways to increase the network of paths for walking, wheeling and cycling. Details of the 12 main paths in Cambridgeshire can be found at [Greenways \(greatercambridge.org.uk\)](#). This has increased the paths that are suitable for walking in winter or wet conditions, however for some this does reduce the pleasure of immersion in the countryside, but it does increase accessibility for those who need a good level surface for walking or wheeling.

### **Don't Lose Your Way Campaign**

The BBC has recently run the story of concerns over the backlog of applications for Public Rights of Way [Public rights of way applications backlog concerns campaigners - BBC News](#)

Currently there is a deadline of 2031 set for updating the definitive map records. Paul Cutmore has recently submitted two applications for well used footpaths on the Wimpole Estate including Victoria Drive to be added to the definitive map. He has been advised that these may take up to 3.5 years to consider. As Ramblers members it would be appreciated if you could support the removal of the deadline for adding well used and other lost footpaths not yet on the definitive map held by Cambridgeshire County Council.

In the meantime enjoy your walking. Please let us know any issues you would like to see in a newsletter or for the committee to consider.

Jane Crawford-White, Jean Murray and Sushma Paleschi  
Walks Co-ordinators, Cambridge Group