

## **West Berkshire Ramblers AGM 6th November 2024**

Our net membership over 2024 has grown very slightly since 1/01/2024 by 6 to 321. This number represents individual people on our list which is managed by Ramblers head office. The make up of our membership continues to turn over as expected with new members coming in replacing those who have stopped walking regularly or have moved away.

Communication has changed so much in recent years and this has meant that in the time since many members joined and started walking with Ramblers we have moved from relying mostly on posting out walk programmes to members 3 months ahead to today when we rely almost totally on our website and email. We like to send out details of social events, our coach walk programmes and also the occasional newsletter. The rising cost of postage has meant that even sending out 37 AGM notices takes up about £32 of our meagre budget. All this means that it is vital that we have permission from you (or your partner if you have joint membership) to accept email from Ramblers. Using the new improved Ramblers website making simple changes to your membership profile to do this is very easy. I urge you to do this or check your status this as soon as possible.

Finally we continue to have some problems communicating with members whose email address has changed or no longer functioning. The same applies to phone numbers. There remain about 10 members where we cannot send an email or cannot phone to check the situation. Again I urge members to check their listed address on the website and make changes where necessary.

Many members who walk regularly check the West Berks Ramblers website for information on walks and events. Today this is our preferred way of keeping in touch.

Robin Clugston

John Gardner

Membership Secretaries.