

Wellington Walkers are Welcome

Ninth AGM , 14th July 2019

Secretary's report

Committee/Membership Matters:

Since the last AGM, the management committee has met 9 times for full meetings ; a Festival planning subcommittee met once. The (virtual) minute book is available for inspection.

We now have 102 members, including 6 patrons (an increase of 21 from last year). Of these, 49 declare they are from Wellington itself, 77 total from near Wellington and 93 total from all of Telford and local villages. (8 of the remaining 9 have declared Shropshire, although I know at least 4 of these live in Telford) . I have sub lists for patrons, for members and for committee/helpers (there are 20 on this latter list, an increase of 2).

A reminder: We are still members of the Ramblers Worldwide Holidays Walking Partnership scheme and now are receiving money whenever one of our number goes on one of their holidays and nominates us .

Other Matters:

Over the past year we have continued to attempt to raise our profile and have a voice in the town and the area. In order to do this we have :

Held our seventh walking festival in September 2018.

Arranged our eight walking festival which will be held in September 2019.

Held 2 regular walks each month. These are on the first and third Sundays.

Three of the committee were on the original Telford T50 50 mile trail group. I am now the secretary of the Friends group for the trail and Pam is on committee. The group is about (July 27th) to launch the full trail guidebook.

Led walks for Get Telford Walking, a new initiative by the T50 consortium and public health at T&W Council.

Contributed 2 walks to the Wellington Spring Festival.

Continued to keep the website and Facebook page up to date. The website is still in the process of a facelift.

We will transfer the registration to wix when our current arrangement runs out at the end of this year.

Sent the occasional tweet as [@WellingtonWaW1](https://twitter.com/WellingtonWaW1)

Become an admin on the new Love Wellington Facebook page .

Maintained links with Walking for Health- Telford and Wrekin and the Telford and East Shropshire Ramblers group (we continue to work very well together on the T50 trail) .

Worked with the Shropshire Way association, we are contributing a walk to the Shropshire Way Festival in September.

We have run joint stalls with both Walkabout Wrekin and LA21 at local events .

Thanks to Bob (our Footpath Secretary) and Malcolm (or Path maintenance Group Organiser) we have continued to be very active on the footpath front this year, see more details in their reports.

Contributed to meetings of various bodies concerned with walking in Telford and Shropshire

Submitted our annual report and received good feedback.

Eve (our chair) attended the annual WaW get together in October.

I have again acted as a Walkers are Welcome mentor, this year appraising the annual reports of the other Shropshire WaW towns, as well as advising Broseley on their successful membership bid. I have re-joined the national committee.

The next year:

In the immediate future we have the Walking Festival to publicise and run, including running information stalls in the leisure centre foyer (Aug 19th) and at the start of the main path up The Wrekin (Sept 1st).

We will also send at least one delegate to the National Get-Together in Kirby Stephen in October.

I still feel that publicity is our weakest area, we would still dearly like someone to volunteer to help us with this. This year, I have been de facto fulfilling this role but it is not my forte and I would like to be able to concentrate on other things.