

## BEXHILL RAMBLERS CLUB

### Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024 Held at 4, Bushy Croft, Bexhill TN39 4JR

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mike Brennan, Jon Reed, (Chairman) Duncan Maclean, Chris Cooper and Sandra Warcup.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Jane Kirk, Ingrid Finch
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** Meeting held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024, Approved.
- 3. Matters Arising:** None
- 4. Secretary's Report:** None
- 5. Treasurer's Report:** There is £770.89 in the Ramblers Bank account.

Two payments to be made: 1) Website domain £16.88

2) Bandstand £40.00

The committee were advised about the Ramblers Association website seminar. No members watched it.

- 6. Membership Secretary's Report:** This was read by all the committee members. A new members contact list received. 19 new members – 66 have renewed, a total of 85 members. A suggestion both the walkers guide and the constitution, be added to the home page of the website.
- 7. Saturday Walk Secretary's Report:** Everything is OK. Walk leaders, is still an ongoing problem, although two people have shown interest, with guidance from Jon Reed.
- 8. Tuesday Walk Secretary's Report:** 26<sup>th</sup> March - 16<sup>th</sup> July inclusive. There were walks scheduled for every Tuesday (17) in the specified period. Walk leaders were 9, encouraging statistic. No walks available, as yet, for August.
- 9. Social Secretary's Report:** 17 attended the social event held at Wetherspoons on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024. The Band Stand has been booked for the 11<sup>th</sup> August 2024, between 3.00pm and 6pm, Strawberry Tea Event. This booking comes into next year's allocation, due to being only 4, per year. The committee agreed to fund the purchase of ingredients, disposable cutlery and plates, to the sum of £50.00. Members can bring their own refreshments or purchase them from The Old Bathing Station. Any social event required, Duncan, to implement it.
- 10. Website Managers Report:** Updates as discussed previously have now been implemented. Photos and text to be changed. Walk reports are arriving and are very good, this is a winter job to add to the website. A WhatsApp group, for committee members, only, was agreed. Website traffic is down by 20%, in the last 3 months. A Face Book page has been suggested, this is to be raised at the AGM. Chris and Michael are to liaise about the cost of the Website Domain.

**11. Any Other Business:** The AGM has been agreed for the 30<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm. The sailing club, Ruddy Duck ( Traffs ), rowing club. Sandra to investigate. General discussion reference matters for AGM.

Next committee meeting to be held on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2.00pm 2024, at 21 Holmesdale Road, Bexhill, TN39 3QE.**

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Membership Report**
- 2. Tuesday Walks Report**
- 3. Website Report**

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT 19th JULY 2024

Since the last Committee Meeting 22nd March 2024:

I have received 10 enquiries, 2 of which resulted in membership. There has been 1 cancellation due to a Member moving out of the area and. 1 late renewal.

Since the beginning of the subscription year 2023/2024 we have:

New members 19

Renewed membership 66

**A total of 85 members.**

This is 2 additional Members than the last report in March. Numbers are pretty constant at the moment. I do think the weather has played an important part in our lowered numbers since the AGM but also to our aged members and local population.

As in my last Report, I have received positive feedback for the detailed emails and attachment I have sent in response to enquiries. I now only attach the Check List for Walkers and the Constitution. Some have requested to trial a walk and I have passed their details to the walk leader for the chosen day. It has not necessarily resulted in an immediate request for membership, but rather has given an idea what to expect. I have now also included details of the Health Walks as some who enquire are not able to walk as far as our members do. It is difficult to judge how competent potential walkers can be or those that do not disclose a disability. So without asking specific questions, all have to be given the chance to walk comfortably with us.

I have been emailing the Walk Reports for which the feedback has been very nice and positive.

I have sent a full New Membership contact list and a Renewals one to all Committee Members. Please note there is now a column for an Emergency Contact Number. If you need to call this number, be aware that the person you are calling could be either a relative or a friend. Please delete your old lists and replace them with this one. Amend your emails as necessary please.

Jon and Duncan, I will continue to send emails on your behalf.

I feel that the "Check List for Walkers" should be on the "Home" or "Walks" page of our website, readily visible to anyone interested in walking with us. The grades are listed in the Walks Programmes on the Home page which show the message "check website for grading definitions" but these cannot be viewed unless you look at the Members page.

I feel the Constitution should be on the "Home" page as well. It contains nothing controversial or private and it would help prospective walkers know how we conduct ourselves.

I am prepared to continue as Membership Secretary for 2024/2025.

Ingrid Finch  
Membership Secretary

19th July 2024

## **BEXHILL RAMBLERS – TUESDAY WALKS REPORT**

Committee meeting date 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

This report covers walks undertaken 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024 inclusive.

There was a walk scheduled on the walks programme for every Tuesday (17) in the time period covered.

All of the 17 walks scheduled went ahead despite some inclement weather.

The number of walk leaders covering the 17 walks was 9. This statistic is encouraging compared to the previous report which was only 4 walk leaders for 10 walks.

We currently have walks scheduled for the remainder of this month although none yet for the month of August 2024.

# WEBSITE PROGRESS REPORT FOR MEETING TUESDAY 19th JULY 2024



We currently have a full paid for WIX Premium account for our website. This is for three years with the domain name of [www.bexhillramblers.com](http://www.bexhillramblers.com) paid for one year. The one-year domain renewal payment will be due next March.

**Password-** The members area password is “cuckmere” from the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024.

At the last meeting we agreed to update a few things which have been done. One outstanding item is the Home Page, which we decided to update. I propose adding some new photos and update text.

Since the last meeting I have continued to post the minutes and reports. Programmes are uploaded on request and anonymised versions shown on the “Walks” page. Please note that programmes are automatically uploaded once issued by the Walk Secretaries. Copies of the PDF’s will be emailed back as confirmation of posting.

I have also updated our East Sussex Community Information Service (ESCIS) entry. This now links to a new service called TRIBE.

**NEWSLETTER-** I intend to continue the monthly Newsletter when I have time, although this may end up quarterly. This is emailed to all members and posted on the web site. I would value any comments and contributions from the committee.

**Write ups of walks** – Everyone seems to be submitting walk reports so thanks all. I hope to be able to devote a bit more time to this and have uploaded a few of these to the blog. I would value any comments and contributions for the next Newsletter from the committee.

I propose that all website activities be agreed moving forward as the committee member may require. Namely: -

- Items for uploading – general. See note above about programmes.
- Changes to website content
- Blog experiment see below.

**Blog-** Subject to agreement I have proposed that we implement our own Blog- <https://www.bexhillramblers.com/blog>, which once enabled fully will allow committee members to interact with members. I have posted a blog recently and all seemed to work OK. At the last meeting it was decided to put this on hold.

**Walks diary-** If members wish I also hope that we may introduce a Walks diary (as referred to above) with a short text dialogue, map and some photos used to produce an article for each walk which will grow into an interesting and humorous (at times) account of our activities. There are some concerns, so I will concentrate on the Newsletter for the time being.

**Links-** are included for The Ramblers Association I have also compiled a list of interesting and hopefully useful links added to the website now. Please let me know if you have any issues with this.

# WEBSITE PROGRESS REPORT FOR MEETING TUESDAY 19th JULY 2024



## WhatsApp

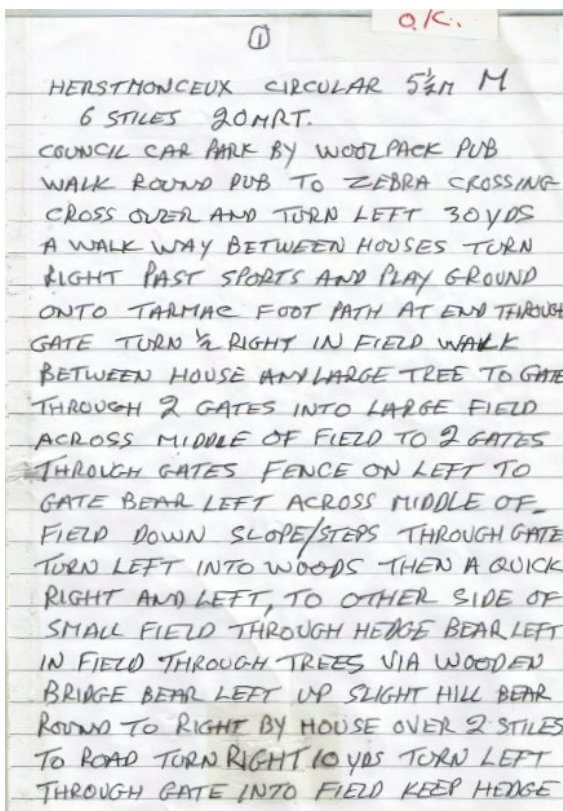
At the AGM members asked for a WhatsApp Group. I would ask for the Committees direction in this respect please. We could do a Committee Group first. I would envisage that any involvement will be voluntary. All data is encrypted end to end. At the last meeting no further action was decided.

Would Committee Members like their own WhatsApp Group as a starter?

## Walks Archive

I have been given about 50 fully detailed walks by Eric who is happy for these to be shared. I believe the committee were all in favour at the last meeting.

I have scanned one, see below: -



# WEBSITE PROGRESS REPORT FOR MEETING TUESDAY 19th JULY 2024



②  
ON LEFT, TURN LEFT THROUGH HEDGE  
TOWARDS HOUSE AT END OF FIELD OVER  
STILE TURN RIGHT BY BARN/HOUSE (ON LEFT)  
TO TARMAC ROAD TURN LEFT 30 YDS TURN  
RIGHT (LOOK FOR WAY MARKER) ONTO DIRT  
FOOTPATH THROUGH GATE (BY GREENHOUSES)  
ACROSS FIELD HEDGE ON RIGHT THROUGH  
GATE ON RIGHT STRAIGHT OVER GRAVEL  
ROAD HEDGE NOW ON LEFT ACROSS FIELD  
THROUGH GATE TURN RIGHT THEN LEFT  
INTO NEXT FIELD UP HILL THROUGH HEDGE  
OR GATE TURN RIGHT HEDGE NOW ON RIGHT  
AT END OF FIELD THROUGH 2 GATES BEAR  
RIGHT THROUGH GATE THROUGH FENCE ON  
LEFT UP TOWARDS TREES AT TOP THROUGH  
GATE STRAIGHT ACROSS INTO WOODS LOOKING  
FOR WAY MARKER CARRY STRAIGHT ON PATH  
UNTIL TARMAC ROAD TURN LEFT ~~TO~~  
~~UP TO CONCRETE ROAD TURN LEFT~~  
30 YDS THROUGH GATE PAST OLD FIRE  
STATION STRAIGHT ON THROUGH GATE INTO  
WOODS AT END THROUGH GATE INTO FIELD  
STRAIGHT ON (CASTLE ON LEFT) THROUGH  
2 GATES ONTO DIRT FOOTPATH CARRY ON

③  
PAST OBSERVATORY JUST BEFORE MAIN ROAD  
TURN LEFT ~~THROUGH~~ THROUGH GATE INTO  
HERSTMONCEUX GROUNDS FOR BREAK  
CROSS ROAD IN GROUNDS TO PATH ON  
OTHER SIDE KEEPING OBSERVATORY ON  
LEFT THROUGH GATE INTO FIELD JUST  
PAST OBSERVATORY TURN LEFT INTO WOODS  
STAY ON TRACE OVER BRIDGE BEAR LEFT  
AT DIRT TRACK BEAR LEFT AGAIN CARRY  
ON BETWEEN 2 PONDS THROUGH GATE  
THROUGH NEXT GATE TO FIELD UP TOWARD  
BARN AT TARMAC RD TURN RIGHT 100 YDS  
TURN LEFT THROUGH GATE OPPOSITE HOUSE  
STRAIGHT ACROSS FIELD THROUGH HEDGE OVER  
STILE BEAR RIGHT IN FIELD THROUGH GATE  
OVER WOOD BRIDGE CARRY ON TO MAIN ROAD  
TURN LEFT ALONG MAIN ROAD TO CHAPEL ROW  
TURN LEFT DOWN CHAPEL ROW AT CHURCH  
TURN RIGHT ONTO NARROW FOOTPATH THEN  
RIGHT AGAIN BETWEEN GARDENS AT FIELD  
STRAIGHT ACROSS THROUGH HEDGE VIA GATE  
ONTO FOOTPATH PAST SPORTS GROUNDS  
AT MAIN ROAD TURN LEFT BACK  
OVER CROSS TO CAR PARK

Following the last meeting we will start to scan these and post to a new section of the Members Area. Some help would be appreciated.

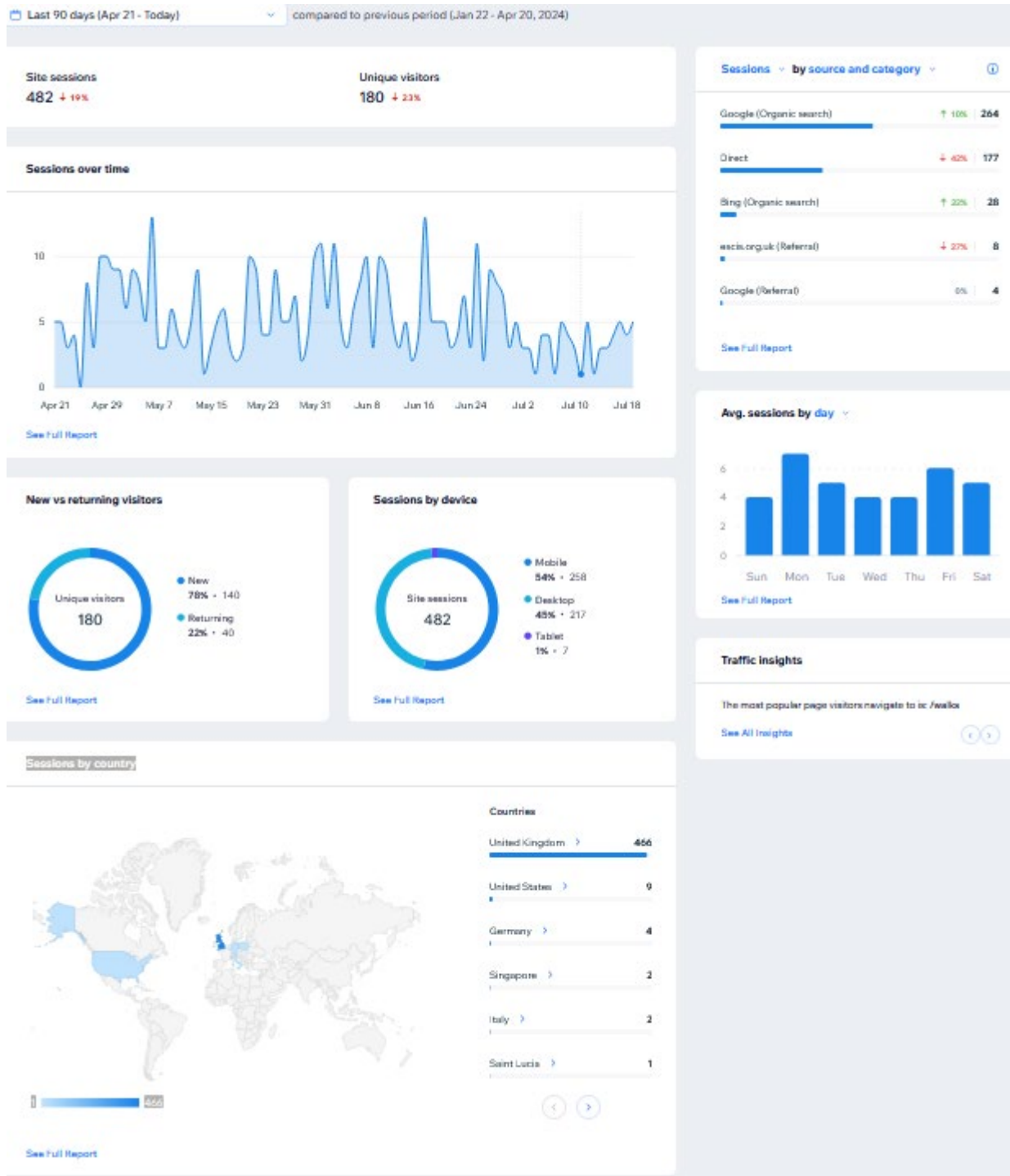
This still needs to be actioned



# WEBSITE PROGRESS REPORT FOR MEETING TUESDAY 19th JULY 2024



Website Activity Report For the last 90 days: -



Overall site sessions over the last 90 days are up 20%, unique visitors down by 18% and about 76% of visits are new which is very encouraging. It's interesting that 54% of visits are via mobile phone. I am ensuring that the site is fully optimised for this. We even got visits from USA, Germany, Singapore, Italy and St Lucia!

# WEBSITE PROGRESS REPORT FOR MEETING TUESDAY 19th JULY 2024



## SEO and Google.

The site is optimised for Google type searches which is important for people searching for rambling in this area.

# WEBSITE PROGRESS REPORT FOR MEETING TUESDAY 19th JULY 2024



## Members Area Current View



[Home](#) [Walks](#) [Gallery](#) [Contact Us](#) [Members' Area](#) [Links](#) [Privacy Policy](#)

## Bexhill Ramblers

Q Search...



Saturday walks programme

Saturday Walks May-July 24 Rev A

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** You must wear sturdy footwear and appropriate clothing on our organised walks. The Walks Leader has the right to refuse participation if you do not have the correct attire. This is for your safety and so as not to hold up the group due to injury.



Tuesday walks programme

Tuesday Walks JULY 2024

[Bexhill Ramblers Club Constitution](#)



[CLICK HERE FOR Link to 2023 AGM Minutes](#) →

[Members Privacy Policy](#)



### Walks Leaders

If you are offering to lead a walk or have an enquiry about a walk please contact the following:

**Saturday walks** - Jonathan Reed  
[jonreed894@btinternet.com](mailto:jonreed894@btinternet.com)

**Tuesday walks** - Jane Kirk  
[bexhilltuesdaywalks@yahoo.com](mailto:bexhilltuesdaywalks@yahoo.com)

**General email** - [bexhillramblers@gmail.com](mailto:bexhillramblers@gmail.com)

**Latest Committee Minutes**  
- 9th January 2024



### Your Committee - 2023-2024

Acting Chairman	Jonathan Reed
Secretary	Sandra Warcup
Treasurer	Michael Brennan
Membership Sec	Ingrid Finch
Tues Walks Sec	Jane Kirk
Sat Walks Sec	Jonathan Reed
Social	Duncan McLean
Website	Chris Cooper
Rights of Way	Vacant
Welfare	Vacant
Safety Officer	Vacant

**Not Committee but helping out:-**  
Auditor Janet Jones

### Rights of way

If you find any problems with a footpath or stile please contact **ESCC PROW:**  
Tel- 0345 608 0193  
Web- [click here](#)  
Email- [rightsofway@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:rightsofway@eastsussex.gov.uk)



[Walkers Check List](#)



[Walk Leaders Check List](#)



[INSURANCE DETAILS](#)

[bexhillramblers@gmail.com](mailto:bexhillramblers@gmail.com)

Bexhill Ramblers- <https://bexhillramblers.com>

Chris Cooper 19/07/2024

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