

Chairman's Chat October 2026 (A message from Mike Adye)

Dear Members

Summer has now passed but we are still enjoying lots of sunny weather making our walking most enjoyable. Unfortunately the law of averages means that we will at sometime experience rain and therefore mud as winter comes and spring arrives. So dig out your warm clothes and waterproofs and continue to enjoy what the surrounding countryside has to offer.

Over the past 3 months we have had the opportunity to enjoy many lovely walks and events including:

- Round the gardens walk organised by Kath. Thanks to Kath and to those who hosted the group for morning and afternoon tea and lunch.
- McMillan Cancer support walks organised by Dave. Thanks also to Roy and Pauline for assisting Dave and Katrina. £325 was raised for charity.
- Skittles evening and meal. Thanks to Jenny for organising this event.
- A quiz night in combination with the Wilton pétanque group. Thanks to Phil for including walking group members into this event.
- The annual walking festival organised by the Ross on Wye Walkers are Welcome group. This was hugely successful this year with 24 walks of various lengths and degrees of difficulty on offer. 376 walkers plus 50 leaders and assistants were out on the hills and vale's around Ross over the festival weekend. Thanks to all Ross Walking Group members who lead and assisted with walks and participated.

A number of RWG members enjoyed a boat cruise on the Breacon canal. This outing was organised for a different group but as there were spaces still available, a number of RWG members were invited. Feed back from this was positive and your Committee has agreed that this could be an additional event to add to the 2027 walk programme.

I am pleased to see a number of days where short and longer walks are on offer for members to choose from. These are looking very successful with a good number of members participating as they are able to choose which walks best suit them on the day. Thanks to members organising and leading these walks.

Your Committee has agreed that it would be good to get some feedback on what would encourage members to participate more in the group's events. A brief members questionnaire has been prepared and will be put up on the group website in the near future. Your Committee are keen to get your feedback. You will be given the option of providing your name with your response, or responding anonymously. Alternatively you are welcome to chat with a member of your Committee. All feedback will be considered by your Committee.

Please note that Wilton Road will be closed for 8 weeks starting from Monday 19th October for road works. Please allow additional time to get to and from Wilton sports ground if you are driving. Wye Street will offer an alternative route, however this could be slow.

Happy walking in the cooler weather.
Mike Adye