



THE DISABLED RAMBLERS

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025



Monsal Trail, Derbyshire

**THE DISABLED RAMBLERS
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

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THE DISABLED RAMBLERS
OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Directors/Trustees

serving during 2025

John Cuthbertson

Mark de Rivaz

Paula Brunt

Rhiannon Robinson

Marian Andrews

Jonathan Clark

Simon Bruton

Registered Office

7 Drury Lane

Hunsdon

Ware

Herts SG12 8NU

Company Registration Number 5030316

Charity Registration Number 1103508

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc

THE DISABLED RAMBLERS

DIRECTORS'/TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The Directors/Trustees, who are Directors/Trustees of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their Report and Financial Statements of the company for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Objectives and Activities

The Disabled Ramblers' charitable purposes ("the Objects") are the relief of disabled people residing in the Charity's area, which is the whole of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, with particular emphasis on facilitating enjoyment of the countryside.

The Disabled Ramblers is a small charity working to help make the countryside more accessible to people with limited mobility – which benefits everyone.

We campaign to raise awareness of the needs of people with limited mobility, especially with regard to access to the countryside. We organise a programme of rambles for people who use mobility scooters.

The Directors/Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Membership is open to anybody on payment of the annual subscription. As well as mobility scooter riders we encourage others to become members and support what we do.

All our work is done by volunteers; we have no paid staff. We are deeply indebted to them for their unstinting dedication to helping us to achieve our Objectives.

Achievements and Performance

WENMAN TROPHY

This trophy is awarded annually to the person or persons who we feel have contributed a great deal to The Disabled Ramblers. This year, we were pleased to award the trophy to Marian and Barry.



LIFE MEMBERS 2025

Tom Bindoff has been a lifelong supporter of improving access for all to the outdoors. In his business life, he set up Centrewire which is the foremost provider of accessible gates and other furniture for the countryside.

In his spare time, he volunteered at the Aston Rowant National Nature Reserve. Here, he was the instigator and key driver behind the creation of the National Land Access Centre which is now called COAT – Centre for Outdoor Access Training.

In the 2026 New Years Honours, Tom was awarded a **British Empire Medal (BEM)** in the [New Year Honours List 2026](#), in recognition of his **Services to Outdoor Accessibility to Nature**.



MOBILE SUPPORT UNIT (MSU) and FIELD SUPPORT UNIT (FSU)

Many disabled people don't go into the outdoors due to a lack of toilet facilities when and where they need them. Our charity is unique in providing accessible toilets before, during and after our National Rambles.

The MSU is a 10ft x 5ft box trailer which carries our **four loan scooters**.

When these are removed, the trailer becomes an accessible toilet.



The FSU is a small trailer towed behind a Tramper mobility scooter. On it we carry a Porta Potti and tent.

When needed, at any time, the wheels are removed from the trailer, and the unit quickly becomes an accessible toilet.



RAMBLES 2025

Our season of National Rambles begins in April. We run four rambles during one week of each of the months of April, May, June, July, September and October.

You can see more photos and a written account of each ramble [here on our website](#).

April. Sussex South Downs

Beachy Head, Stanmer Park, Firle Beacon and Petworth Park.

Leaders: Marian & Barry



Firle Beacon

May. North York Moors

Sutton Bank, Old Byland, Ana Cross and Old Wife's Way

Leaders: Jonathan & Sophie



Sutton Bank

June, Derbyshire

Chatsworth, Monsal Trail, Carsington Water and Hardwick Hall.

Leaders: Judy & Bernard.



Chatsworth

July. Worcestershire.

Wyre Forest (twice), Croome and Eastnor

Leaders: Sarah & Pete



Croome Landscape

September. Pembrokeshire

Blackpool Mill, Pantmaenog Forest, Castlemartin East and Westfield Trail

Leaders: Martin & Heather.



Castlemartin

October. Hertfordshire & Essex

Lee Valley, Epping Forest, Hunsdon Airfield and Hatfield Forest

Leader: Mark & Bee.



Epping Forest

REGIONAL (OR LOCAL) RAMBLES

In addition to our published ramble programme, we run additional rambles.

May. Ebworth, Cotswolds. Leader – John



Ebworth

September. Higham Ferrers – Stanwick Lakes. Leaders: Judy & Bernard



Higham Ferrers – Stanwick Lakes

September. Everleigh, Salisbury Plain. Leaders: Paula & Pete.



Everleigh

FACEBOOK

Our Facebook Group continues to grow, and membership currently stands at over 4,000. The Group enables members to share their ramble experiences in words and pictures, to get help in finding new places to ramble and to seek help with technical issues – all of which is freely given by our very knowledgeable members.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/DisabledRamblers/>

WEBSITE, ON-LINE MEMBERSHIP AND ON-LINE RAMBLE BOOKING

Thanks to the hard work of Jonathan and Sophie we now have a revamped website. Jonathan and Sophie, with lots of help from Judy and Rhiannon, then went on to create the functionality for on-line membership and ramble bookings.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL

Located in Aston Rowant National Nature Reserve in the Chilterns, the Centre for Outdoors Accessibility Training (COAT) has a large collection of gates and other access restrictors set up in a field to give Land Managers the opportunity to evaluate and decide on the least restrictive for their needs.

In 2025, committee members and others visited the Centre to evaluate the structures. Each gate was passed through several times by people using different mobility aids. Once the results have been compiled, they will appear on our website and be sent out to various agencies.

A Selection of Meetings and Other Access Work

On-Going Meetings			
Title	Purpose	Meetings	Who
Access & Engagement Forum – DEFRA	Information giving and discussion.	Teams meeting about 3 times a year.	PB
NAF Wales - National Access Forum Wales	Information giving and discussion.	3 Teams and/or in person meetings a year.	PB
The Ridgeway: Partnership Delivery Group	Information giving and discussion. Often results in action by DR member.	Meetings on Teams and / or in person 3 times a year.	PB
Worcestershire Local Access forum (LAF)	Information giving and discussion.	Twice a year.	JC
Cheshire East Countryside Access Forum (LAF)	Information giving and discussion.	Face to face meetings 4 times a year.	MA
Cumbria & Lakes Local Access Forum (LAF)	Information giving and discussion	Face to face meetings two to four times a year.	RL
Trans Pennine Trail (Greater Manchester Area)	Information giving and discussion.	Teams meeting 4 times a year.	MA
Trans Pennine Trail (Pennine Area)	Information giving and discussion.	Teams meeting 4 times a year.	MA
National Trust: Outdoor Furniture	Advising on and development of <i>Guidance on Outdoor Furniture with Respect to Disabled Access</i> for NT rangers and estate managers.	Completion of the project. The guidance document is now 'live'.	RR
King Charles III England Coast Path Stakeholder User Group	Working with them to identify accessible sections.	Approx 6 monthly Teams meeting.	PB, RR
Rural design Guidance for Active Travel England Stakeholder User Group	Steering Group for project at Active Travel England with consultants WSP and PJA to develop rural active travel guidance. Our involvement to ensure needs of wheeling are properly considered so new active travel paths work better for all.	Advice on clarifying their language for mobility aids. Reviewed two drafts of the guidance and provided significant feedback.	RR

On-Going Meetings			
Title	Purpose	Meetings	Who
Active Travel Stakeholder Group, Worcestershire	The stakeholder group brings together both public and private organisations to support active travel and mode shift as a natural choice for shorter journeys.	Meets four times a year.	JC
Malvern Hills Trust: Recreation Advisory Panel	Information giving and discussion	Meets in person twice a year, sometimes on-site.	JC
Outdoors for All	Stakeholders who work with DEFRA. Updating them on current legislation changes and news	Teams meeting 4 times a year	PB
Natural England Stakeholders Meeting	Natural England update all the stakeholders on any news or changes.	Teams 3 times a year	PB
Mod Access Forum	The MOD updates stakeholders on access onto their land.	In person once a year	PB
The Ramblers	Discussions on improving their approach to accessibility	Ongoing Teams meetings.	PB, RR, MA
Peak District National Park Local Access Forum Active Travel Sub-group	LAF and stakeholders working on Active Travel Plan and Walking, Wheeling and Cycling Infrastructure Plan	Ongoing Teams meetings	MA

Projects			
Title	Purpose	Meetings	Who
Gates Project II	For Disabled Ramblers to produce a detailed guidance document on the most accessible gate.	Gate 'trials' at the COAT centre followed by analysis of findings. Working towards producing detailed guidance document.	All
Disabled Ramblers YouTube channel	Creating an independent online space where members can go to find DR moderated video content	Teams meetings to coordinate content	JonC, PB, RR, MA
Coast to Coast National Trail Audit	Accessibility Audit	1st Feb Teams meeting update on Accessibility Audit.	PB
Ridgeway Survey	Categorising accessibility along the Ridgeway and advising on improvements.	Ongoing. 40 miles done by the end of 2025	PB
Google Street View	Recording routes with GoPro 360. Uploading to Street View.	Ongoing.	PB

Projects			
Title	Purpose	Meetings	Who
Access and Interpretation on The Ridgeway	Improve access to, and information about, key historic sites.	Teams meeting 11:00 on Tuesday 6 th Feb.	PB
National Trails Wales	National Resource Wales (NRW)	Face to Face and Teams meetings. Advising on making a new National Trail across Wales as accessible as possible.	PB
Avon Needs Trees	To improve accessibility at their public facing sites	Exploration of what might be possible prior to meeting next year (2026)	RR
National Trust Tyntesfield	Improving accessibility outside at Tyntesfield and in the Bristol area NT green spaces	Site visits, demonstration of challenges of using Tyntesfield gates from a Tramper, advice on which gates to install.	RR
University of Westminster	Monitoring access control barrier removal on traffic free walking, wheeling and cycling routes.	Site visit in Cheshire East for ramble and interview. On going with further discussion and interviews.	MA
Trans Pennine Trail Miles with Stiles	Assisting with the development of the TPT's on-line Accessible Mapping Layer	Site visits so far to Warrington, Trafford, Widnes and Leeds to grade paths plus on-going Teams discussions with TPT office.	MA
Cheshire East Public Rights of Way Team	Discussion about the most appropriate barrier solution where a PROW met a pavement at the side of a new road	Site meeting with Cheshire Officers and Building Contractors.	MA
Sustrans (now Walk, Wheel Cycle Trust) and Wheels for All Workshop	Assisting at a Barrier Trials Workshop for St Helen's Council and external stakeholders from the city region	Afternoon session at Taylor Park, St Helen's demonstrating the difficulties various barriers can create for wheeled mobility aids.	MA
Trans Pennine Trail Podcast	Recorded a 20 minute podcast about the work of the Disabled Ramblers	Discussion and recording with Robert Drummond, TPT Office, on 9 th June	MA
BBC Radio 4 Open Country	Participated in the recording of Exploring the Lakes by Wheelchair	Interviewed by Caz Graham while exploring the accessible route atSizergh Castle, Kendal on 29 th July.	MA
South Downs National Park – Partnership Management Plan	Providing input for the draft Partnership Management Plan on behalf of the Disabled Ramblers	Teams meeting and email communications	RR, SB
North Downs Way National Trail Accessibility Audit	Improve access along the North Downs Way in Surrey, identifying barriers on the trail to remove or improve for all-terrain mobility scooters	Carrying out audit on the NDW Trail with the NDW National Trail Manager	SB

Projects			
Title	Purpose	Meetings	Who
London Walking and Wheeling Focus Group	Providing input for making walking and wheeling more inclusive and connecting green spaces in London, improving access on named trails in London.	Teams meeting and email communications	SB
Merton Walking, Wheeling and Cycling Strategy	Providing input to improve accessibility in London Borough of Merton, in particular removing barriers to all-terrain mobility scooters	Face to Face and email communications.	SB

Financial Review

The Charity's finances continue to be robust and in a sound financial position at 31 December 2025. This is mostly due to the legacies received in the past, but we must also acknowledge and heartily thank everyone – members and non-members alike – who generously continue to make donations to our Charity. The Disabled Ramblers continues to be in a good position to continue to achieve its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future.

We ran a full programme of rambles through 2025. Overall, income was some 4% less than in 2024, with membership subscriptions and ramble fees 18% down on 2024. However, donations were more than double 2024's figure, thanks in large part to substantial donations from Hearst Magazines (publisher of Country Living) and an anonymous donation via JustGiving. Investment income was very similar to that earned in 2024. The sale of one surplus Tramper raised £2,000. Total revenue expenditure was 3.5% less than in the previous year.

The end result, after allowing for depreciation on our retained equipment, was a net deficit for the year of £210, against a deficit of £185 in 2024. Total funds carried forward at the year end amount to £60,645, very similar to the figure for 2024.

It remains the case that the costs of reccying, preparing and running a full programme of rambles (including the transporting of the Mobile Support Unit (MSU) and Loan Scooters) is considerably more than the income derived from subscriptions, ramble fees and Loan Scooter fees. We are therefore dependent on our financial reserves and continuing donations to fund our charitable activities.

Reserves Policy

The Disabled Ramblers is committed to campaigning for improved access to the countryside, and to providing opportunities for disabled people to ramble in the countryside using mobility scooters. It does not employ staff and is dependent on the work of volunteers. Whilst membership income is fairly reliable, donations are unpredictable. Levels of expenditure are variable and depend largely on the location of volunteers in relation to the location of planned rambles. The Trustees wish to ensure they can continue to fund planned rambles and have agreed to hold reserves of £10,000 to iron out financial peaks and troughs between one year and the next. In addition, if we had a sudden loss of key equipment such as our loan scooters, we would need to have a further £10,000 in reserve to ensure we would be able to fulfil our obligations to our beneficiaries during any year. The Trustees will therefore aim to have £20,000 in reserve and will review this figure regularly.

Consideration of Major Risks

The Directors/Trustees have considered the major risks to the organisation. They are of the opinion that their insurance covers the risks attributable to the events organised. The risk of key members leaving the Executive Committee of the Disabled Ramblers is always with us and we continue to develop potential members into this role. Any member interested in joining the Committee should contact the Chairman to discuss this further.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Disabled Ramblers is a charity registered with The Charity Commission and a limited company registered with Companies House. The Disabled Ramblers is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association that make up The Disabled Ramblers' Constitution.

Directors/Trustees are elected to the Executive Committee from the membership, by the membership, at the AGM. Additionally, the Executive Committee may appoint Directors/Trustees to fill a vacancy for the period remaining until the next AGM.

Directors/Trustees who served during the 2025 year

John Cuthbertson - Chairman
Jonathan Clark - Secretary
Mark de Rivaz - Treasurer
Rhiannon Robinson
Paula Brunt
Marian Andrews
Simon Bruton

Directors'/Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies that are subject to the small companies' regime.

Declaration

The Directors/Trustees declare that they have approved the Directors'/Trustees' Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Directors/Trustees:



John Cuthbertson, Director/Trustee

Date: 28th Feb 2026

THE DISABLED RAMBLERS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

UNRESTRICTED INCOME

	NOTE	2025	2024
Donation and legacies	2	7,508	3,297
Charitable activities	3	5,452	6,653
Other income	4	4,278	8,026
Investment income		2,129	2,130
TOTAL INCOME		<u>19,367</u>	<u>20,106</u>

UNRESTRICTED EXPENDITURE

	NOTE	2025	2024
Charitable activities	5	19,577	20,291
NET SURPLUS/-DEFICIT		-210	-185
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		60,855	61,040
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>60,645</u>	<u>60,855</u>

**THE DISABLED RAMBLERS
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025**

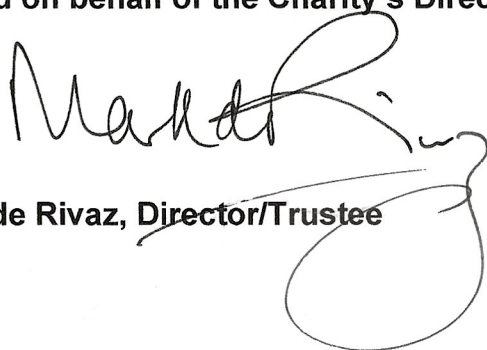
	NOTE	2025	2024
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	6	4,658	6,158
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors		950	1,300
Cash at Bank		63,467	62,111
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		64,417	63,411
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year		0	0
TOTAL NET ASSETS		69,075	69,569
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025		69,075	69,569

For the year ended 31 December 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

1. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
2. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts
3. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies that are subject to the small companies' regime.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Directors/Trustees:



Mark de Rivaz, Director/Trustee

Date: 28th February 2026

THE DISABLED RAMBLERS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

- a) Basis of preparation. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006. The Disabled Ramblers meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.
- b) Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether, in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102, the restatement of comparative items was required. No statements of comparative items is required.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the Company is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Where amounts are received in advance the income is deferred until the date of the event held. For material legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the Company being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received.

Donations and gifts are accounted for when received, as are members' subscriptions. Income tax reclaimed in relation to amounts received under Gift Aid is included in the same period as the income to which it relates.

Resources Expended

All resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Costs not attributable directly to any of the principal expenditure headings are apportioned on an appropriate basis.

Depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised. Depreciation of fixed assets is calculated to write off their cost or valuation, less any residual value, over their estimated useful lives. The rate applied is: Plant and Equipment 20%.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

We are grateful to the many members and non-members who have made donations in addition to their ramble fees and loan scooter fees.

	2025	2024
General donations	7,383	3,202
Regional Rambles donations	125	95
TOTAL	7,508	3,297

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – INCOME

	2025	2024
Membership subscriptions	2,926	3,350
Events fees	2,526	3,303
TOTAL	5,452	6,653

4. OTHER INCOME

	2025	2024
Gift Aid	1,278	1,399
Website sales fees	1,000	1,150
Miscellaneous income	0	577
Sale of surplus equipment	2,000	4,900
TOTAL	4,278	8,026

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – EXPENDITURE

	2025	2024
Events costs	6,395	5,729
Equipment transport	3,295	4,728
Equipment costs	1,864	782
Equipment maintenance	1,145	1,703
Travel and accommodation (campaigning)	2,410	184
Directors/Trustees' meetings	1,088	648
Administration	517	439
Insurance	1,093	1,353
Marketing and website	129	98
Depreciation	1,500	3,446
Other costs	141	374
Ridgeway Project expenditure	0	807
TOTAL	19,577	20,291

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

COST

At 1 January 2025	6,158
Additions	0
At 31 December 2025	6,158

DEPRECIATION

At 1 January 2025	42,730
Charge for the year	1,500
At 31 December 2025	44,230

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31 December 2025	4,658
At 31 December 2024	6,158