



Manchester and Salford Ramblers

Newsletter No 69 March 2026

Apologies. This will be a shorter than usual newsletter as I am moving in the next few weeks and lots to do. I will still be in Manchester though and in M&S Ramblers

Socials. Having also been busy moving house I'm afraid I've rather neglected planning any socials. March will be our first one of 2026. A few people have already made suggestions for what our group might be interested in and I'll be looking into those for future events. Please send me any ideas you have. So 'watch this space' and I'll be sending information for our next social soon. Thank you and see you soon!
Christine Quinn 07791452798

The Manchester Green Trail – green spaces on your doorstep. Salle Dare.

The Green Trail offers walking routes that link Manchester's Parks, open spaces, canal and riverside walks with urban streets and localities. We want people to use this to encourage leisure walking in Manchester. If you would like to do this too then come and join us as one of the guardians of the Manchester Green Trail.

We are a group of M&S members who have adopted a section of the Manchester Green Trail (some people have taken two). We undertake to check it at least once a year; replace any way markers that are damaged or missing; report any changes we think are needed to the route; and we check that the directions on the route leaflets are clear and accurate and report these to the group overseeing this route. We need a guardian for sections 2 and 3 – Delamere Park to Central Park Metrolink and Central Park Metrolink to Boggart Hole Clough. Happy to have a chat with anyone who would be interested in taking this on.

If you are a walk leader we would ask you to try and build sections of the Green trail into your walks. We hope we can promote these walks locally too.

Anyone interested in becoming a stage guardian. I am happy to have a chat about what's involved. Email me on salle_e_dare@yahoo.co.uk

Walking in Greater Manchester: A new Greater Manchester Pathfinder Walking Guide book comprises of 28 excellent walks has been released. Written by local author and Ramblers' member Andrew Read, it has a variety of 28 walks: open green spaces, along river valleys and canal towpaths. Including the moorlands of the West and South Pennine and Peak District fringes. All of the walks are reachable by public transport. Follow this [link for more on the book and how you can order a copy.](#)

Kinder Mass Trespass 94th Anniversary Celebration Saturday 25th April. Events 1pm in Hayfield. We have a 3.5 mile easy walk from New Mills to arrive at Hayfield by 1pm. See our walks programme and website for more details. If you want to volunteer to help on our Ramblers stall at the event contact Margaret Manning.

Pavement parking – a government response

On the 8th January 2026, after 5 years of waiting, the government published its response to a consultation in 2020 about pavement parking. The 105 page document titled, Pavement parking options for change: government response, sets out all the findings and the government recommendation for the way forward.

The consultation survey was a detailed questionnaire about experiences and views on all aspects of pavement parking. There were 14,975 individual responses, 206 from organisations, 156 from local authorities and 44 from commercial businesses.

92% of local authorities that responded said that pavement parking was a problem in their area. Interestingly 41% of individuals said that they would leave home more often if there was no pavement parking.

The options under consideration were:

- To improve the Traffic Regulation Order process.
- To enable local authorities to enforce against unnecessary obstruction of the pavement.
- A national prohibition.

Although not a voting exercise, the third option received the most support with 71% of individuals and 54% of organisations stating this as their preferred option. The government decided on the second option, to increase the enforcement powers of strategic authorities. Going forward the next steps will be:

1. To agree primary legislation.
2. To establish a regulatory framework.

The government have committed to legislating this matter as soon as possible. The emphasis will be on a devolved and streamlined framework not requiring application to the Secretary of State.

There is much in the government response about the importance of defining 'unnecessary obstruction'. They suggest that this will be defined in the guidance using examples.

My concerns are:

- There will be ineffective management and low levels of enforcement due to a lack of resource from authorities.
- Without the promotion and publicity of a national prohibition, there will be a limited deterrent.
- There will be an inconsistent approach to enforcement across the UK.

The most frequently suggested alternative measure was for more off road parking at new homes and more car parks. Also road infrastructure changes:

- Improved road markings and signs
- One way roads
- Pedestrian priority
- Cycle lanes with no parking regulation
- Improved crossings

It was suggested that there should be a driver education campaign with national and local publicity around the dangerous and anti-social elements of pavement parking.

At the February committee meeting we agreed that the national stance was positive and there was support for any improved regulation of pavement parking. Also that the M&S Ramblers should be represented at future local level discussions on this matter. We also agreed to involve members in local audits to highlight problem areas when walking on urban paths. Cath Fernley, M&S Urban Paths Officer.

Carers Walks. December Carers' walk for 31 was around the Festive installations, markets and squares in Manchester city centre. Great atmosphere, not too crowded, festive treats on the way and hot drinks at Central Library.



January. Another good winter walk in Peel Park and the Meadows, Salford. 38 of us were lucky to have some sun, though a stiff breeze, so we didn't linger for long.



Our Walks. Despite the often wet weather all have been well attended over the winter. We even managed a snowy walk in January, some sunny walks and signs of Spring. As usual it was a varied programme.



City Centre to Ordsall & Castlefield



Manchester Green Trail Stage 5 Heaton Park to Queens Rd.



Worsley Woods, Monton, Canal on Boxing Day.



Manchester Green Trail part of Stage 1 Levenshulme, Gorton, Station South Café, New Years Day.



Red Bank, Angel Meadows, Ancoats.



Marple.



Salford Quays



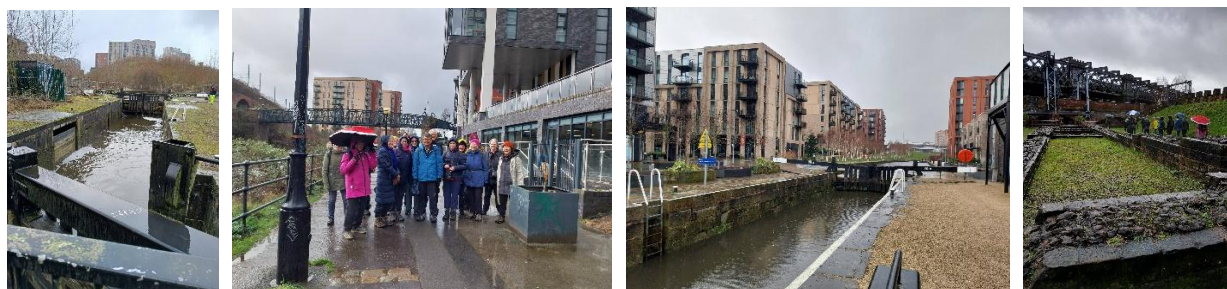
New Mills & The Torrs.



Knutsford & Tatton Park.



Didsbury & Cheadle Hulme.



Castlefield & River Irwell.



Sale Water Park.

<https://www.manchesterandsalfordramblers.org.uk/>

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RAMBLERS WORLDWIDE HOLIDAYS PARTNERSHIP The Ramblers have an agreement with Ramblers Worldwide Holidays. We will receive a payment for holidays booked by our members. So don't forget if you take a Ramblers Worldwide Holiday tell them you are a member of Manchester and Salford Ramblers and quote MR10

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